Post Box 322.
Telegram: "Chronicle"

Registered No. B. 4666
Telephone No. 22037

The Bombay Chronicle
WEEKLY

Founder:
PHEROZESHAH MEHTA

Editor:
SYED ABDULLA BRELVI

VOL. IV NO. 31 BOMBAY: SUNDAY, AUGUST 5, 1945. PRICE FOUR ANNAS

BOMBAY BRANCH OF THE ROYAL ASIATIC SOCIETY

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta

Born 1845 Died 1915

CENTENARY TRIBUTES TO A GREAT PATRIOT

LARGE OF HEART & BRAIN

By Prof. V. N. Naik

"I cannot help my personality anv more than you can help yours." In these words did Mehta close a memorable debate on crucial questions in the Subjects Committee's meeting of the Indian National Congress at Calcutta at the end of 1906, presided over by Dadabhai Naoroji.

As a result of the partition of Bengal by Lord Curzon the whole country was roused as it had never been roused before. And in order to unsettle "the settled fact" of partition, Bengal had formulated the four-fold programme of Swadeshi, National Education, Boycott and Swaraj. A debate in the Subjects Committee ensued on the wisdom of universal boycott. And at the end of it Mehta succeeded in winning over to his view point leaders of the stamp of Tilak and Lajpatrai against extremists in Bengal like Bipin Chandra Pat. When the discussion had ended and resolutions were finally framed, one of the outstanding leaders twitted Mehta with the observation that it was after all the triumph of his personality to which Mehta gave the answer with which we begin our tribute to his memory.

Mehta had come to be regarded in his day, notwithstanding certain differences between him and other leaders in the country since the day that the Congress was broken up at Surat in 1907, as the greatest of political leaders and statesmen that India had produced between the years 1870 and 1915. It requires, it is said, one great leader to understand another. And we may say that it was Gokhale who asserted about Mehta that "he (Gokhale) would be wrong with him rather than be right without him" on any momentous issue before the country. Mehta's personality was not mere pomp and circumstance—the tawdry act of ostentation and noise. It had on it the stamp of political genius that saw and felt almost intuntively the right and the wrong of every question of policy and principle; that, at once, penetrated into the root of the matter; and that had the power to decide the issue quickly with a firm and unerring mastery on details and procedure, without deflecting aught from the principle underlying the details of any particular policy programme for the country to take up and pursue. That was how leaders in the first rank of public life like Gokhale, Ranade, Budriddin Tyabji, Telang and Wachha, were proud to own themselves as his disciples. And that was the reason again why his influence guided men older than himself who had been in the political field much longer than he. "Such was the case" as H. H. the Aga Khan puts it, "with Dadabhai Naoroji and with many others whose names are dear to India."

GRANDEUR & SIMPLICITY

It was all a triumph of character and of courage—the courage to say no to anything that he felt as ultimately harmful to the cause of India. There was no trace or taint in them of selfishness or mere opportunism that not unoften, masquerades as compromise or expediency of the hour. Two traits in that character at once suggest themselves to one who meditates on that life. And they are "grandeur and simplicity." The first inspired awe and fear when one knew him only from a distance. The other turned these into acection, personal loyalty and reverence as one began to know him more intimately. What that tie of affection was is made clear to us by Mehta himself in his last words on Gokhale spoken in the Town Hall meeting of 1915 when Gokhale, younger far in years, had pre-deceased him by a few months.

Said Mehta of Gokhale on that occasion. "Gokhale is dead. How dearly we loved each other, how genuinely we trusted each other, what regard he had for me, and I had for him, words fail me at the present moment to convey to you. In an attempt to speak of him all that comes back to my mind is—'Gokhale is dead leaving me behind. What shall I do to consummate the tremendous work that is lying before me! How should I act to carry out the plans we had chalked out, without his help, without his society, without his guidance, without his co-operation.

This was the time when they together had invited the Congress to Bombay in order to unite those who had gone apart since the Surat session of 1907. The war had been on, and Mehta had been working on a plan along with Gokhale that the Government be made to declare its policy towards India once for all, and to implement prompt and liberal measures in pursuance of that policy. It was with this definite aim that he had called upon Lord Sinha to accept the presidentship of the Congress session in 1915. And when he had at first hesitated, he wired to him that it was his command to Lord Sinha to accept it And Lord Sinha acquiesced with the result that Surendranath Bannerjea has told us so graphically about, in his work "India in the Making." Prior to this step, he had spent his vacation in Poona that he might be at close quarters both with Gokhale and Tilak and pursue his conversations with them for the 'reunion' that he had planned. But both Gokhale and Mehta were taken away from our midst before the Congress had assembled in Bombay at the end of 1915. It is not our purpose to detail the life-story of Mehta in this article. The reference is made here to certain facts only to reveal the personality of the man who had such a tremendous hold in his day on the mind and heart of some of the wisest and the best among the eminent Indians of that period.

IMPOSING APPEARANCE

No one saw him on the public platform, or in the University Senate Hall, or in the City's Corporation meeting, or in the Council Chamber at Calcutta and in Bombay, without being struck by his imposing presence. His was an imposing appearance—a face that was meant to dominate any assembly in the world. He had a learning that inspired confidence. His manners, though suave as became a gentleman, had nothing in them that was either cringing or that panted for praise. Every one who watched him from a distance feared him. But as he came to know him personally, he felt that here was kindness and simplicity personified, though they took nothing from him of the dignity and grandeur that were so natural to him. Rank, title, status, influence were all but the guinea-stamp. The man was the gold for all that.

The writer of this tribute to his memory came to see and know the great leader when the latter was well-stricken in years—in the year 1912. A book introduced him to the leader. And when the writer was called the letter to see him in his chamber, he had a feeling that he must approach the shrine with bated breath and in whispering humbleness. What was his surprise, therefore, when the great man made him sit on a chair in front of him, and opened the conversation with the following words: "Where did you pick up the information that enabled you to write this book on Telang, which I have read with such delight and pleasure? Why did you not come to me for material? Dear Kashinath was such a dear friend of mine, and I would have given you all the help you needed to do your work well." And when the writer seemed to demur he added. "Why did you hesitate, was it not enough for you to approach me, that we were all Elphinstonians,—myself, Telang, and you?" That, at once, set the humble person in his presence at ease with himself, and a feeling of personal loyalty went forth from his heart to the great leader whom he had seen then only for the first time.

Simplicity and grandeur, an unerring judgment of men and events, a firm grasp of the constitutional aspect of every question, courage to speak out the truth as time and occasion demanded it, the power to beard the lion in his den, a thourough mastery of details and procedure, and, withal, a broad, generous, national outlook—these were the elements that went together to make him the man that he was in the politics of modern India. "Large of heart and brain"—these were the words in which Mehta once described his friend Telang. And they were as true of him as they were of the friend he loved so much. But Mehta had a tougher fibre than Telang, and his artillery of attack and debate was heavier and more formidable than the zapier-thrusts of Telang.

They were sledge-hammer strokes as Tilak named them once in an article on him in his famous paper, the "Kesari" of Poona. His fight with the reactionary policies of Lord Lytton, Lord Elgin and Lord Curzon in India; his battle-royal with Lord Sydenham once the question as to who was the first citizen of Bombay, the President of the Bombay Municipal Corporation or the Sheriff of Bombay; his successful fight against the University Bill of Lord Curzon; his evidence before the Raleigh Commission on Education and before the Islingdon Commission on the Public Services in India, and more similar incidents in his forty-five years of unstinted service of India may be quoted to illustrate the point.

CALM AND SERENE

And with all these battle-strokes and hammer-blows that he dealt out to those whom he considered to be no friends of India, there was in him so much of laughter and good humour, that he had no enemies and many friends than others could count in the ranks of those who happened to be ranged on the other side. There was no malice in his attack and no rancour in his advocacy. There was no sense of false prestige as there was no willingness to stoop that he may conquer, in his championship or the public cause. His influence was like that of the central sun rather than like that of a sweeping hurricane or shaking earthquake. These may darken the scene with the dust they throw up. After all the sun abides while the hurricane and the earthquake, though terrible in their devastation, pass on.

President Wilson, describing "the genuine man", has hit off two qualities of leadership that makes it an abiding influence. They are humour and laughter together, and the light like that of the sun. And he has pointed out from American history one outstanding example of such leadership. And that was the leadership of Abraham Lincoln. Mehta had in him an abundant sense of humour and laughter. That kept his mind clear of cant, and his heart free from any deep-seated feeling of hatred and suspicion. If there was any leader in India free from green-eyed jealousy or from fear of competition, it was Mehta. In the most anxious moments of public life weighted with tremendous responsibility, he was calm and serene, and evinced the magnanimity which Burke has praised as the highest of political virtues. And he had the light in him that led people along the right road.

He had courage, outspokenness and sturdy independence of character so rare in the annals of our public life. And he had tact and argument to convince those who differed from him. Loyalty to him was no reward of patronage to deal out, or plums of office to bestow. He won by appealing to public conscience and by an appeal to the logic of facts. He never cared for pelf or power in themselves. And the power that he yielded was the first of service that he had rendered. And he had in him the kind of sacrifice that few knew about. He never felt that he was making any sacrifice at all of his time and money, of his body and mind, when he did anything for India.

H. H. the Aga Khan, in his foreword to the biography of Mehta written by Mr. (Now) Sir H. P. Mody uses the following apt words to describe that trait in him. And with these words we may well close this appreciation of our dear, departed leader for the centenary number of the paper founded by him. Says H. H. the Aga Khan of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta:

"His simple nature was so free from hypocrisy and conceit that while he could admire the renunciation of Gokhale and the sacrifices of Tilak, he never realised that while he had not taken any such vows or made any such declaration, he had made in his own life the greatest sacrifice of all..... A Parsi of Parsis, who could never be mistaken for any other race, who was proud of every quality which had gone to distinguish that ancient people, he was yet an Indian of Indians, ever looking forward to a future worthy of India's population and resources and not handicapped by her past misfortunes. A Bombayite passionately devoted to his city and to his Presidency, yet he was the standard-bearer of the cause of United India." If Mrs. Ramabai Ranade, in the reminiscences of her husband, the great Ranade could say with truth, that she visualised the map of India writ large on his heart, for he was thinking twenty-four hours of the day of India and nothing else, we may, with equal truth, say that of Mehta as well.

In Spite Of His Leonine Appearance, Sir Pherozeshah Was All Too Human.

A Born Leader

BY SIR SORAB SAKLATVALA

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta has played a great and leading part in the political history of our country. He was endowed with great forensic abilities which he used not only in his professional career but also in the field of politics.

But it is in connection with the part he played in the civic life of the city of Bombay that he is most gratefully remembered by the citizens of Bombay. Suffice it to say that the Act of 1872 on which subsequent municipal acts were based embodied most of the reforms advocated by Sir Pherozeshah or Mr. P. M. Mehta as he then was.

The next land-mark was in 1888. Luckily for the Corporation of Bombay there were many illustrious citizens of Bombay who were prepared to devote their time and energy to the affairs of the City and most of whom occupied the Presidential Chair. Amongst others we may mention the following gentlemen all of whom had occupied at some time or other the Presidential Chair:

Sir Henry Morland; Khan Bahadur Murzban; Abdoola Dharamsey; Ibrahim Rahimtoola; Rahimtoola Sayani; George Cotton; G. W. Roughton; C. T. Burke; Grattan Geary; Mr. Yajnik; the Hon'ble Dr. Bhalchandra; and Barbhaya. It was in 1875 that Mr. Dosabhoy Framji was selected President "in the Corporation being the first Indian on whom the honour was bestowed.

Most Towering Personality

But the most towering personality amongst all the illustrious citizens is that of the Hon'ble P. M. Mehta who rendered noble services to the City in particular and to the cause of local self-government in general and has deservedly earned the gratitude of the people of the whole Presidency. His civic career was most successful and remarkable. It is given only to a born leader of men to guide for upwards of a quarter of a century the affairs of a large and influential body such as the Bombay Corporation undoubtedly is; and this is what Mr. Mehta practically performed.

Without exaggeration, I can assert that Sir Pherozeshah obtained for his native city its freedom and that too not without strenuous exertions on his part, when as a member of the Select Committee in 1888 he prevailed on his colleagues in casting the Bill in an entirely different shape from that in which it formerly was and in which shape it passed as Act I of 1888. A genuine lover of local self-government, he fought with colossal labour and mental energy and triumphed in the end. He also showed great zeal and singleness of purpose during the discussion in the Legislative Council at the reading of the 1901 Bill which was the next measure of great importance finally emerged as Act IV of 1901 on behalf of local self-government in the Presidency.

Early Prominence

Mr. Mehta's civic career began at an early date. We find him in the year 1871, a young man of but 26 summers fresh from England, on the Bench of Justices assembled to consider the subject of municipal reform to which their attention was directed by Mr. Crawford's extravagance. It is astonishing to see how early Mr. Mehta imbibed the true principles of local self-government. Even at that early date he had valuable suggestions to offer on Municipal Reform.

Another important public act of Mr. Mehta in early life was the reading of a paper on Municipal Reform in the Framji Institute.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 21 April, 2017

SIR PHEROZESHAH MEHTA

SIR PHEROZESHAH'S LEGACY

Despite social and religious differences, we have all begun earnestly to realise that we are fairly on a way to a common national existence united and bound together by common political ties of an equal and impartial rule just as the United States has raised up the American Nation on the basis of an infinite diversity of races and creeds. When we call the Congress national, we give expression to this nationalizing tendency which is now so powerfully leavening new India.

— Pherozeshah Mehta

INDIAN FIRST

To my mind a Parsi is a better and truer Parsi, as a Mohomedan or a Hindu is a better and truer Mohomedan or Hindu, the more he is attached to the land that gave him birth, the more he is bound in brotherly relations and affections to all the children of the soil, the more he recognizes the fraternity of the native communities in the country and the immutable bond which binds them together in the pursuit of common aims and objects under a common Government.

— Pherozeshah Mehta

ON BLIMPS

"Certain Europeans ridicule the policy of righteousness as one of weak sentiment and seem almost to adopt, with scarcely disguised approval, the vigorous summary of their position given recently by Mr. Bright that having won India by breaking all the Ten Commandments, it is too late now to think of maintaining it on the principles of the Sermon on the Mount."

— Pherozeshah Mehta

Mahatma Gandhi's Message

The following is an English translation of the Hindustani message sent by Mahatma Gandhi:

"The people of India know that as a politician Sir Pherozeshah Mehta holds a very high place in my heart".

What Pherozeshah Thought Of Them:

Kasturba

One Of The World's Foremost Heroines

I tell you, ladies and gentlemen, that there has been no more touching episode in the whole history of this campaign than the conversation which Mrs. Gandhi had with her husband before she cast in her lot with him in the Passive Resistance Movement.....

History records the deeds of many heroines and I feel that Mrs. Gandhi will stand as one of the foremost heroines of the whole world.

(Sir Pherozeshah in Public meeting 10-12-1913).

Gandhiji

Hero Of Indian Independence

It is enough if I tell you that we all regard Mr. Gandhi as a hero in the cause of Indian Independence and I might add that he narrowly escaped being its martyr. Let us wish him the same success here that he achieved in South Africa and I am perfectly certain that he will be the means of doing enormous good and promoting in every way the welfare and prosperity of this country which he cherishes like ourselves so well and patriotically.

(Sir Pherozeshah in public meeting 12-1-1915).

THE BLIGHT OF BUREAUCRACY

It is the very essence of a bureaucratic regime to demoralize, unless its healthy condition is constantly promoted by watchful scrutiny and vigorous criticism. The danger is infinitely enhanced in the case of a body like the Anglo-Indian bureaucracy, foreign, secret and irresponsible.

— Pherozeshah Mehta

WHITE v. COLOURED

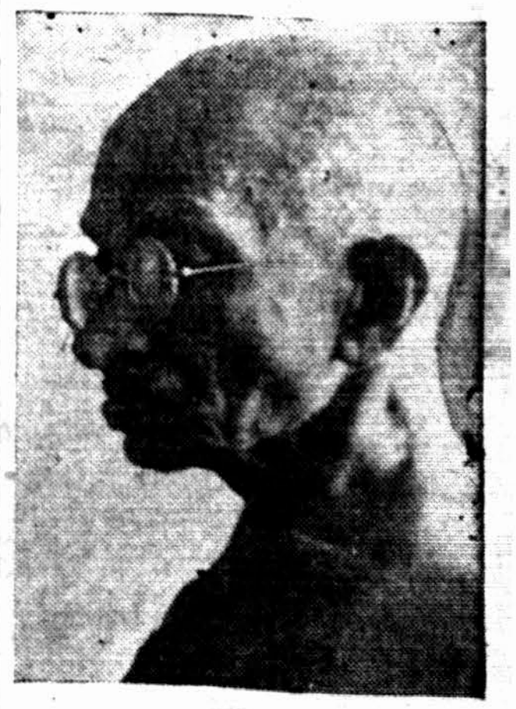
"All over Asia we find that the white races are fighting for the open door. Every white man insists upon entering the country of "the dark people," but when it comes to the question of territories of the white races, the claim is set up that in practical politics they are justified in turning out coloured people".

— Pherozeshah Mehta

THE CONGRESS

The members of the Congress meet together as men on a common basis of nationality, being citizens of one country, subjects of one power, amenable to one code of laws, taxed by one authority, influenced for weal or woe by one system of administration, urged by like impulses to secure like rights and to be relieved of like burdens. If these are not sufficient causes to weld people together into one common alliance of nationality, it would be difficult to conceive what would be sufficient. It is for this reason that the organization has been called the Indian National Congress—not because it claims a non-existent unity of race.

— Pherozeshah Mehta



A PERSONAL TRIBUTE—AND TESTAMENT

Birthday celebrations, called JAYANTI by Hindus and common to all creeds, appealed even to Comte and the Positivists who framed a calendar of their own for the purpose. Today we are prone to forget the past and its leaders, as being back numbers. We find it easier to intoxicate ourselves with the oratory of the present and plume ourselves on being advanced socialists or communists or other 'ists.'

A country, vast and divided, conquered, disarmed and dependent, struggling for Swaraj must have a policy with continuity even with the necessary flexibility to have a hope of success against the policy of the rulers. The recollection of our leaders in the past should inspire us and give us courage. Comparisons are odious. Nor am I of those who ask themselves what would such a leader have said and done today? Times change, leaders like all men suffer from the defects of their qualities; they never have been and never will be perfect. The essential is to imbue ourselves with their qualities and avoid their defects and their errors and to raise the quantity and quality the discipline other organisation and strength of the movement.

The Congress focuses our ideal of Swaraj by whatever name it may be called. Pherozeshah was one of its leaders from its birth in 1885 to his death in 1915. His speeches edited by Chintamani and his excellent Life in two volumes by Sir Homi Mody show how our problems today are in essence identical with those confronting our predecessors. We build past in the present for the future.

I am of the older generation who have met Sir Pherozeshah Mehta. He was a personal friend of my uncle, Mr. Bal Mangesh Wagle, who along with Ranade was one of the first to take the degrees of Master of Arts and Bachelor of Laws of the Bombay University. Mr. Wagle was a friend and neighbour in Khetwadi of the Manekji Cursetji family, whose relations with Pherozeshah were of the closest. Response to the invitation to contribute on this occasion is therefore a pleasure as well as a duty.

Irresistible Personality

In a broadcast "Personalities I have met" which I gave in 1943 I said—

"In externals, no greater contrast to Ranade could be conceived than Pherozeshah Mehta. dapper, perfectly groomed, with vivacious eyes behind the spectacles, beaming with intelligence. A born leader one felt at once. Ranade was light, Pherozeshah was fire. Lucid and penetrating, sturdy and self-reliant and above all, with the vigorous shrewd commonsense, which is the hallmark of the Parsee Community, his kindness to youth and his personal magnetism were irresistible. To him more than to any one else, local self-Government in his City of Bombay owes an imperishable debt."

The spirit of the ruling race, (in Nazi German 'Herrenvolk') is illustrated by several incidents. In 1877 a public meeting was convened in the Town Hall under the presidency of the Governor to start a Volunteer Corps movement in Bombay. It turned out, however, that only Britons or, to be more exact, Europeans, were to be allowed to be volunteers. Thereupon Pherozeshah moved an amendment as follows:—

"That it is not advisable to resolve on the formation of a volunteer corps composed exclusively of Europeans, in a public meeting of the inhabitants of Bombay."

Telang seconded the amendment whereupon the Governor and others such as Sir Rayond West blandly explained that it was intended to call a meeting of Europeans only and that the word "Europeans" was "inadvertently" omitted from the notice board calling the meeting! The amendment was withdrawn and Pherozeshah and Telang left the meeting.

Oh Bhownuggree!

Another amusing incident in the same connection was narrated by Sir Pherozeshah in a speech against the Bhownuggree boom, attempted by reactionary Britons in India and in England on the strength of Bhownuggree's election as a Conservative member of Parliament for Bethnal Green. Pherozshah narrated how he and an Indian friend of his, who were travelling from Kathiawar, had to vacate their compartment at Ahmedabad owing to the insistence of an Englishman on having his dogs in the compartment. The Englishman insisted that since he did not object to travelling with 'Natives' the latter should not object to travelling with his dogs; to him obviously the two were on a par. Pherozeshah and his friend had to shift to another compartment and the indignation of the latter knew no bounds and persisted throughout the night. It was only at the end of his speech that Pherozeshah mentioned the name of the friend.....it was Bhownuggree!

A Staunch Nationalist

Then, as now, the struggle between communalism and nationalism was acute. In his address as President of the Congress in Calcutta in 1890 he declared his creed:

"Parsis have been both called, invited and allured to call themselves foreigners. To my mind, a Parsi is a better and truer Parsi, as a Mohamedan or a Hindu is a better and truer Mohamedan or Hindu, the more he is attached to the land which gave him birth, the more he is bound in brotherly relations and affection to all the children of the soil, the more he recognises he fraternity of all the native communities of the country and the immutable bond which binds them together in the pursuit of common aims and objects under a common Government."

So much for the gibe, heard today, that a Parsi by birth too often evolves, first into a Persian, and last into a Briton as soon as he has made his pile.

The fawning loyalist, the unscrupulous careerist, the renegade communalist, all seeking for their own purposes and ambitions to inflame animosities and to divide us, to the neglect and at the expense of our common permanent interest economic, political and social—such reactionaries got short shrift from Pherozeshah. Religion he kept apart from politics. He neither strove for saintliness nor dived into minds in quest of a change of heart. He never tried to 'spiritualise' politics whatever that might mean. But on clean politics he was firm.

He did not feel bound to turn the other cheek to abuse or to misrepresentation much less did he pursue the will o' the wisp of unity so called by quibbling or sacrifice principles and justice on the altar of such unity. A realist of realists, he was alive to fundamental differences of spirit, ends and means and preferred a parting of ways, as at Surat, rather than seek to reconcile irreconcilables by formulae or appeasement.

His was the faith of that generation of Indians which survived till our youths that Great Britain and the Liberal party led by Gladstone and Bright would confer self government upon India "The British", (it has been written), are serious about their trade. It is the one thing in life they are serious about. In England's case, uniquely, God and Mammon are one. Mammon's appetite is tempered by the knowledge that honesty is the best (paying) policy. God is goodness, justice, love, mercy, and five per cent on a sound investment. Of this factor perhaps Pherozeshah made insufficient account as well as of the Herrenvolk feeling of contempt for colour and the bully in the Anglo-Saxon through generations of the slave trade and conquest and exploitation in the Tropics. Lord Salisbury's reference to Dadabhai Navroji as 'the blackman suffices to illustrate the point.

It was by reason of this faith that to the end Pherozeshah still hoped that freedom in India would broaden from precedent to precedent at the hands of our British rulers. But even so confirmed a Liberal as Sir Homi Mody complains that the crumbs have always come too late and have resulted in the extinction of Liberals in India as a political force. Much water has flown under the bridges since Pherozeshah passed away. To use the jargon of the present day, Pherozeshah and his party were bourgeois speaking to bourgeois! And while they were alive to the poverty and the misery of our masses from the time of Dadabhai Naoroji and his book on "Poverty and un-British Rule in India", none of them identified themselves with the masses in the manner Mahatma Gandhi has done, in dress, food, travel and life generally.

We may or may not all agree with the creed and theory of non-violence. We may accept it to the extent that violence by Indians in politics, even in speech and much more in acts, will be suppressed by the arm of the law; and, given the progress in Military science and weapons, is doomed to failure if it takes the form of revolt. But even so, the Congressman of today might well ask the Liberals what positive practical alternative sanction remains for us in politics except civil disobedience. That question the Liberals are unable to answer. Hence their political extinction, to say nothing of the unedifying personal animosity against Mahatma Gandhi displayed by some of its leaders, who can find nothing better than strike an invariable note of dissent to whatever Mahatma Gandhi says. We may not ourselves be prepared to face prison and fines. But is it necessary to run down the patriotism, the courage and the sacrifice of those who are so prepared?

The Separatists of Pakistan, with their belated discovery of its merits and necessity and their sudden fervour for their faith must be treated with the silence they deserve. Beyond queering the pitch of the Congress and a hatred of Hindus they have no ideal but dispising the mild Hindu and his non-violence and his congenial political naivette, they hope to restore Muslim Rule while they join the chorus of 'Independence'. Meanwhile they will rule all the Provinces they can, sometimes with the aid of the Congress, which meantime obligingly fills up the jails. They thus help the Hindus on in the ascent to spirituality. Mahatma Gandhi's services in the cause of Swaraj have been immense. He has placed it on an unshakable world pedestral. He has enlisted both the Commercial classes and the masses in the cause; but in regard to the problem of Muslims and of the Muslim League and of minorities generally, the Congress has been conspicuous by its lack of statesmanship. Beyond appeasement and lack of back bone it has no policy.

No Surrender

In the case of South Africa, contrary to the opinion of Gokhale and Mahatma Gandhi, Pherozeshah refused to sacrifice essential principles for a temporary concession. With all respect to South Indian mentality and subtlety in the light of the past history of India and our interests present and future, economic and political, Pakistan and Dravidistan or any other Stan should be to the Nationalist unthinkable, presenting as they do every prospect of economic conflict and civil war. Communalists cannot change into nationalists by weightage or political manipulation or appeasement; and to be frightened by screams of atrocities' and of pretended fear of the Hindu caste majority is mistaken policy. The more is given the more will be asked. Immeasurable conceit and unscrupulous ambition may blind the leaders of the minorities to the fact that in the long run they are really playing the game and making themselves the tools - of the British Reactonary governing class, which wishes to perpetuate our political and economic dependence.

Even as British foreign policy is based on the balance of power, so British policy in India is based on 'divide and rule'. The tools for division may be Princes or minorities, classes or castes and creeds. The nationalist is the real enemy. Hence the consistent hostility against the Congress and the caste Hindu. Thus in the Act of 1937, the caste Hindus, a clean majority, were given 86 seats out of a total of 250. The present composition of Hindus in the Executive Council and in the Wavell offer shows the same policy. I need not refer to the communal electorates through the Aga Khan as its puppet mouthpiece introduced by the British Government. Political communalism in the Legislatures and the Executive Government down to loaves and fishes right at the bottom was deliberately created and is maintained and encouraged by the British Government.

Perfidious Albion

At the same time, both for home consumption and above all for the sake of world opinion, a temple of Janus must be formally erected. The unity of India and freedom and democracy constitute one face of this Janus, displayed in Royal proclamations and in speeches for freedom (always just round the corner) by Tory reactionaries such as Mr. Amery. The other face of Janus to reassure British vested interests may be seen in speeches in Parliament and elsewhere. Gokhale's heart beat high in hope when the philosophic radical Morley reigned at the India Office. But Morley's Recollections show how he could not distinguish between Gokhale and Tilak and distrusted both equally; and, like Lord Birkenhead later, he could assure Parliament that his reforms could never lead to self Government. Mahatma Gandhi certifies that his 'friend' Lord Linlithgow was a very good man, not less presumably than the devout Lord Irwin, who like other Tory leaders admired and publicly handed round bouquets to Goering and other Nazi leaders, just as Amery and Lord Simon admired and justified Japanese aggression in Manchuria, the former explicitly, because they corresponded exactly to the British in India. Lord Wavell asks for faith in the British Government. It is just possible that after the tragi comedy at Simla Mahatma Gandhi will give him the certificate he so kindly gave his predecessors.

Some of us, at least and at long last, might learn from the Anglo-Saxon and judge by deeds at not by words. It is difficult to reconcile lofty British professions with the deliberate use of the Muslim League to continue the deadlock and retain power, to say nothing of other acts, such as recruitment in Canada or in Australia for the Indian Civil Service of the Indian Police.

But the question has been ably answered by Mr. T. R. Venkatarama Sastri, President of the All-India Liberal Federation in his statement on the Simla Conference on July 15.

"Is there any country in the world in which one man representing a section of a minority may dominate and wreck a conference convened in the interest of the country as a whole completely ignoring other parties and their just interest? There may be many in Britain who genuinely and sincerely regret the breakdown of the Conference, but there are others, without doubt, particularly among those in power, whose lips might frame words of regret but whose hearts rejoice over the failure.

Imperial statesmen have consistently played the game, from the very beginning, of creating, fostering, encouraging and strengthening the separatist tendnecies upto the point which Mr. Jinnah has reached in the Indian political firmament and find in him both their excuse before the world for the policy they pursue in India and the saviour of their Imperial interests in India. Separate electorates conceived and introduced by far-seeing Imperialists and thoughtlessly allowed by short-sighted Indians, have borne their fruit and amply fulfilled the hopes of their authors."

Fuel For Fire

I shall only add that the term 'Caste Hindus', the failure to invite the Hindu Mahasabha, so that the Caste Hindus had no representation except thfough the Congress the parity of caste Hindus and of Muslims in the Executive Council, the failure of the European representative to submit a list and the obsequies of the Conference at the behest of the Muslim League are clear indications of the continuity of British policy and a tribute to Mr. Amery's astuteness in impaling the Congress (with Caste Hindus) on the horns of a dilemma.

During the elections in Great Britain in 1931 John Burns told me at the National Liberal Club in London that in his opinion, the British ruling class was the shrewdest in the world. He instanced the forged Zinovieff letter, the May report, the Post Office Savings Bank scare and the winning over of the vain Ramsay Macdonald, the author of the Awakening of India, and later on, of the Communal Award, whom every Duchess was go-

(Continued on Page 25)

By "HISTORICUS"

Pherozeshah's political torch was lighted in the Liberalism of John Bright, Stuart Mill and Gladstone.

Like Prometheus he brought the fire to this distant land and sought to sow wisdom in the hearts of men.

He reached for many stars and many came to adorn his diadem. In intellect, in achievement he has had no peer.

The shadow of his greatness stretched across the land of Ind and many sought shelter in its shade.

The country feels and suffers for want of the like of him in its present plight.

The Bombay Mayor pays a tribute to the greatest Mayor of them all!

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta May Well Be Called The Father Of The Bombay Municipal Corporation

By Dr. JOS. ALBAN D'SOUZA, MAYOR OF BOMBAY

On the 4th of August 1945, the City of Bombay will celebrate the Birth Centenary of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, the great tribune, who in his day came to be styled as its "Uncrowned King" and the father of the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Even as a political leader and champion of the rights of the people, Sir Pherozeshah ranks high amongst the great men of India of the last century. There was not a single movement of importance affecting the interests of India and the Indians in which he did not take a prominent part. His work in the Bombay University, the Bombay Legislative Council, the Imperial Council and the Indian National Congress was of outstanding merit.

Corporator For 45 Years

Although varied were his activities during his long and strenuous life, there was no other public body to which he was more devoted and for which he worked with greater zeal and to which he gave more of his valuable time and thought than the Bombay Municipality. He most thoroughly identified himself with all that meant progress, advancement and prestige of the Corporation. No other Councillor had served on it for as long a period as 45 years and served with such remarkable skill and ability. He steadfastly consecrated his life and magnificent talents to the affairs of the Corporation in the making of which he had a prominent share. He jealously guarded and promoted the cherished rights and interests of this Corporation and he never spared himself during his long connection with the Municipality.

His civic career began when he joined the Board of Justices in November 1870. It was a body created by the Act of 1865 for the municipal governance of Bombay City. The period when Sir Pherozeshah joined this body was noteworthy for a great struggle for the establishment of local self-government in Bombay on sound and progressive lines. Although the Act of 1865 formed an important landmark in the civic governance of the City, there was as yet no popular element in the Corporation. Sir Pherozeshah pleaded vehemently for the introduction of the free representative principle in the constitution of the Municipal Body and urged for a comprehensive measure securing a radical reform.

> "I would rather be wrong with Mehta than right without him".
>
> —*G. K. Gokhale.*

Charter Of Local Self-Government

The Act was followed by more liberal enactments from time to time until as a result of the Corporation's representations to Government, in which Sir Pherozeshah took a leading part, Government introduced a Bill in 1887, out of which emerged the Municipal Act of 1888, in the framing of which Sir Pherozeshah devoted all his skill and talents. This Act forms the basis of the present Municipal Government, the main structure of which has stood the test of time for half a century.

The Act of 1888 has given the citizens of Bombay a charter of local self-government and, subject to a few modifications, which experience has rendered necessary, has been found to be an eminently sound and workable measure. It has provided an excellent training ground for the development of administrative capacity.

In recognition of his meritorious and valuable services, the Corporation elected Sir Pherozeshah to be their President four times—a distinction unique in the annals of the Corporation—in 1884-85, 1885-86, 1905-06 and 1911-12. He was the Corporation's representative on the Legislative Council from the year 1893, in which they were given the right to elect a representative on that body, upto the date of his death, a record equally unique.

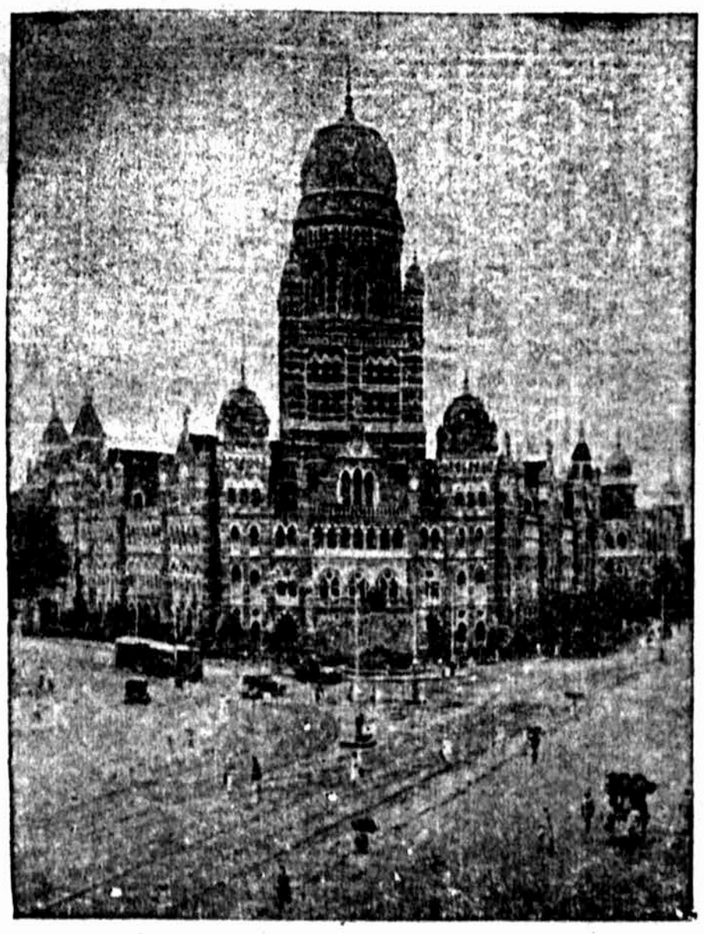
Source Of Inspiration

To the Corporation he was a pillar of strength and it is to his sterling efforts and inspiring example and guidance that the Corporation is particularly indebted for the proud position it occupies as the premier municipality in India. He has left behind a brilliant record of life-long service distinguished by his towering and impressive personality, glowing patriotism, exceptional powers of eloquence, vigorous intellect, sober judgment and fearless independence. He came to be regarded and revered by his colleagues as the father of the Corporation.

It is indeed in the fitness of things therefore that the citizens should join in the celebration of the Anniversary of this great man with deep gratitude and reverence and to the best of their efforts endeavour to make it a success. The object of the Celebrations is not so much for the glorification of the man who is already glorified, but for setting before the public, especially the younger generation who will be the torch-bearers of to-morrow, the shining example of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, which though it may be difficult to emulate, may be a constant source of inspiration and encouragement in the pursuit of our just aspirations for national independence.

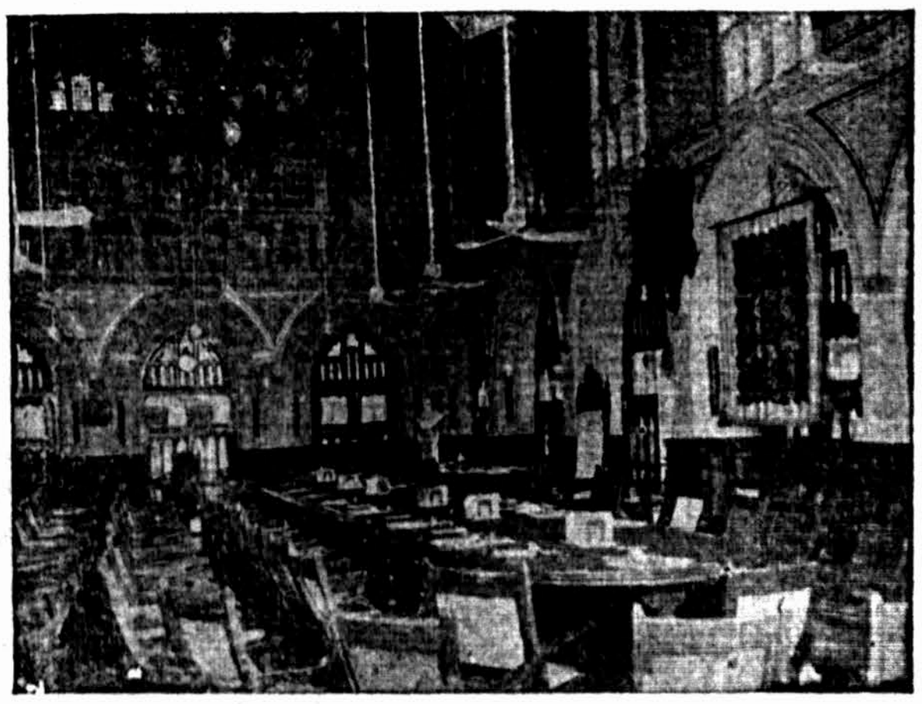
The imposing statue of Sir Phirozeshah in front of the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Four Times Mayor Of Bombay



THE MUNICIPAL BUILDING.

Where The Lion Roared



THE CORPORATION HALL.

By Sir Cowasji Jehangir

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta was the founder of the "Bombay Chronicle" and it is only due to his memory that the paper he founded in Bombay should, on this occasion, bring out a special number. The present generation had not the opportunity of watching a career of undoubted brilliance, independence, clearness of judgment and honesty of purpose which are all too rare in all parts of the world. The more opportunities they had of learning the great principles he stood for, the better will it be for the country. I therefore most heartily welcome the special number.

There are still many persons alive o-day, who knew Pherozeshah Meha intimately, and who are in a position to speak and write on most aspects of his meteoric rise, his forceful character, and the most useful life he led during the years he was ordained to live.

I will confine my reflections to my personal knowledge of a truly great man.

My recollections of Pherozeshah take me back to the days of my childhood. It was in the hot weather of 1887 that I can first remember him paying constant visits to my father and mother at Mahableshwar. He came with some friends nearly every morning. He wore the same sort of clothes then for his morning walk, as he wore till the end of his life,—a tall old-fashioned white sun helmet, a lounge suit of an old-fashioned cut, a stiff turned-down collar, and a pancake tie.

Mahabaleshwar Episode

During that year, there was an animated controversy about the Frere Hall at Mahableshwar. We children sat down spell-bound, to hear his version of the story. The Hall had been built from public subscriptions, but was, in those days, wrongfully monopolised by the Mahableshwar Club, which was the sacred precinct of the Europeans. Pherozeshah asserted his right to enter the Hall and challenged the authorities of the Club to eject him. He claimed the Hall as a public library and succeeded in asserting the rights of the people. Ever since that year, the public enjoy the use of the library. I quote it as a typical instance of Pherozeshah's attitude towards life. He took nothing lying down and exhorted all and sundry to stand up for their rights without fear or favour.

Since those remote days till the very end of his life, we have seen him put up many a fight and carry it to a successful conclusion, establishing his reputation as the most stalwart champion of the people, as Bombay has ever produced.

During the same Mahableshwar season, I can remember Pherozeshah being congratulated on his first nomination to the Legislative Council. All I knew then was that the word "Hon'ble" had to be affixed in front of his name. But, yet, that nomination resulted in the Civic government that Bombay enjoys to-day, and which, on all hands, is acknowledged to be the most successful in India.

Ever since I can remember him, he was the outstanding figure in the public life of Bombay,—a brilliant conversationalist on all subjects, versatile in his knowledge from women's fashions to the poverty and misery of the poor, courteous in manners, and an upright and impressive figure very well-groomed, fond of good living, and devoid of ostentation or any semblance of affectation.

A Typical Instance

Although I had many occasions of meeting and seeing the great man, it was not until 1904 that I came into close contact with him in the Municipal Corporation of Bombay. In those days, there were few outlets for the energy and desire for public work shown by our public men. Pherozeshah made the civic affairs of the city of his birth his main public activity, and he was prepared to make every sacrifice in the cause of this service. His own profession, his health, and his wealth were of secondary importance.

I can give a typical instance. There was an important question about the Improvement Trust, which was just then a very controversial subject. The debate was to come on in the Corporation about the same time as an important legal case at Hyderabad for which Pherozeshah had been briefed. He suggested giving up the fat fees he had been offered, but was persuaded by his friends that his financial position did not permit of such a sacrifice. He went to Hyderabad, but the debate in Bombay in his absence did not proceed very favourably from his point of view. It was adjourned to another day. Pherozeshah threw up his brief, sacrificed his fat fees, and returned to Bombay in time for the adjourned debate.

Seldom was it that he was absent. You found him in his usual chair two or three minutes before the proceedings started. He never spoke without knowing his facts, however unimportant the subject may have been. An obliging secretary always placed before him the necessary file, which he glanced through in a few minutes with his wonderful grasp for facts and figures. Usually his speeches were short and to the point, but he could exhibit the greatest patience during a long and rambling speech of sometimes over an hour's duration, with a smile on his face, while younger and more inexperienced members fretted and fumed trying to stop the unnecessarily loquacious gentleman!

An Illustrious Group

He was a hard fighter, but ready to compromise where no principles were involved. Like all independent men, he had to tread on the corns of a large number of people during his long and active life. He certainly did make enemies, who called him autocratic. By his personality and the strength of his arguments, he more often than not carried the day, adding thus to the chagrin of those who opposed him. On the other hand, I can quote instances where he yielded against the opinions of his friends who, to my knowledge, never tried to defy him. They might even indulge in strong criticisms, but in the end they accepted his judgment.

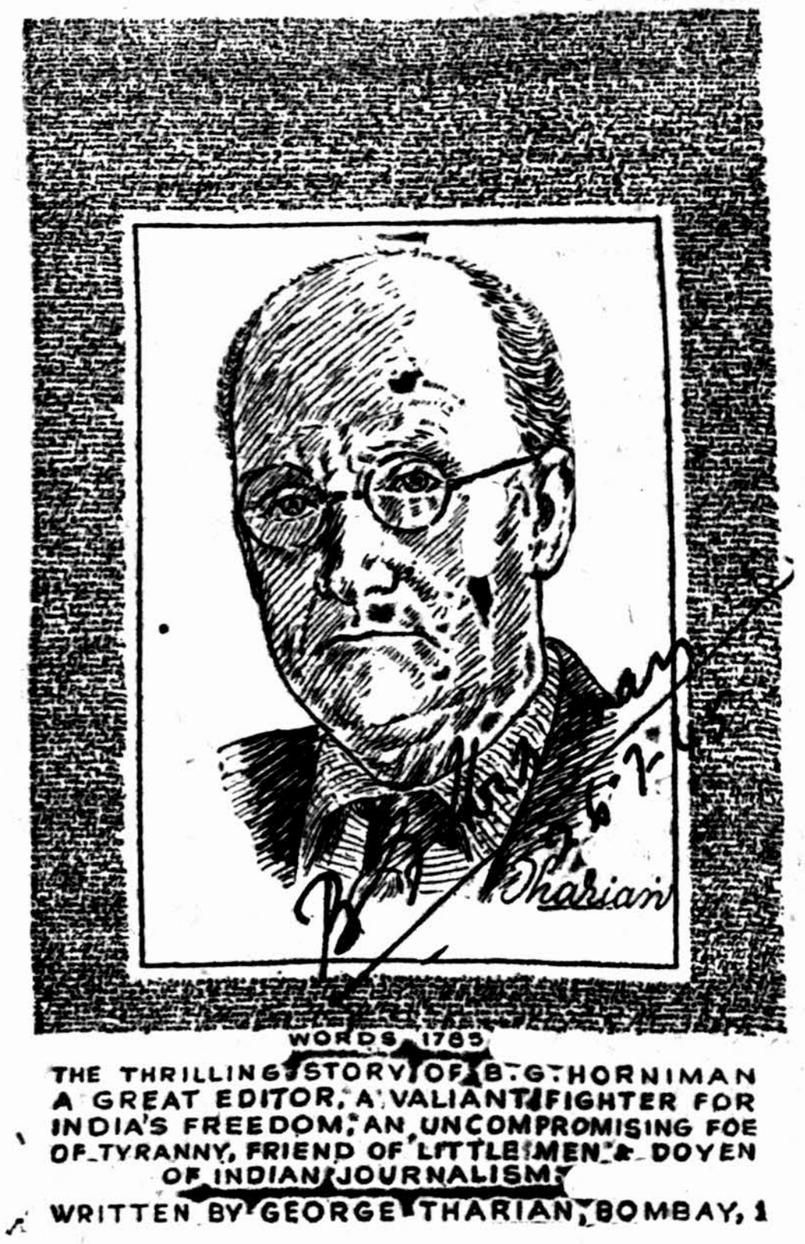
He was one of the most illustrious group of men,—truly intellectual giants of their time. Telang, Ranade, Tayabjee were three of the most conspicuous of the group. Unfortunately, all three were tempted to desert public life for the highest Government office then available to an Indian,—a High Court Judgeship. Pherozeshah alone remained to lead and guide public opinion, certainly in Bombay, and very often in the whole of India.

In the latter years of his life, it may truly be said that he had few enemies. True, he had differences of opinion, but he was trusted, respected and loved by all, including a large majority of the official classes.

His death left a gap in the public life of India which, in the opinion of many, no one has yet been able to fill. He lived to see a change in public opinion amongst a certain section of the people, but his policies and principles did not change. Many of his followers continued, and still continue, to believe in those principles and are firmly of the opinion that, had they been followed by the principal actors in the public life of India to-day, India would have been enjoying self-government since a number of years.

Recollections & Reflections

PHEROZESHAH SELECTED HIM


WORDS 1785
THE THRILLING STORY OF B. G. HORNIMAN
A GREAT EDITOR, A VALIANT FIGHTER FOR
INDIA'S FREEDOM, AN UNCOMPROMISING FOE
OF TYRANNY, FRIEND OF LITTLE MEN & DOYEN
OF INDIAN JOURNALISM
WRITTEN BY GEORGE THARIAN, BOMBAY, 1

B. G. Horniman, the first Editor for the 'Bombay Chronicle'.

Miniature Writing

A New Form Of Art

On this page is reproduced an unusual sketch of Mr. B. G. Horniman the editor of Bombay "Sentinel," along with his thrilling life story in 1785 words written on a post card in a very fine miniature handwriting. This writing is done without the aid of a magnifying glass, but to read it one does need a magnifying glass. Still it is legible and clearly readable.

This interesting form of art is introduced in Bombay by Mr. George Tharian, the well-known artist and miniature writer of Travancore.

Mr. Tharian has offered the sketch of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru to the Committee which is raising funds for Nehru Purse.

Among his other writings are the life stories of President Roosevelt, H. E. Lord Wavell, Mahatma Gandhi, and Maharajas of Travancore, Palampur and Dharampur.

Last Days Of Nazi Germany

GOERING BLAMES HITLER FOR DEFEAT

By S. L. Solon

In an interrogation lasting several days Hermann Goering, who still regards himself as Hitler's legal successor, has given his Allied captors a full account of behind-the-scenes events of Nazi Germany's days.

He has told of the amazing rise and fall of the Luftwaffe, whose failure he ascribes to Hitler's "mad interference". He has related for the first time the official Nazi version of the failure to invade Britain in 1940 and the facts behind the termination of the air battle for Britain in the autumn of that year.

A Battle Winning Factor

In Germany's jet-fighter—ME 262—Goering believed that he had a battle-winning factor that could cause havoc among the bombers flaying the Reich. When Hitler saw the new fighter he announced to Goering's amazement that he was not interested in fighters and that the 262 was to be transformed in a bomber after being stripped of armament. Hitler went so far as to forbid calling it a fighter and renamed it "blitz bomber". It was not until the end of 1944—when it was too late—that Hitler relented to the extent of allowing a squadron of 16 ME 262s to go up as fighters against Allied bombers.

The decline of the Luftwaffe began with Hitler's interference—according to Goering's story. Goering described the Battle of Britain losses as "not too painful". At the end of the battle, the Luftwaffe actually was slightly greater than it was at the beginning, but the air onslaught was called off.

The Attach In The East

The German air force, said Goering, could have established air mastery for an invasion of Britain but the German navy was unprepared for the task. The idea of invading the British Isles was finally abandoned because of "lack of shipping space". There were too few landing-craft and experiments had not been successful.

Hitler decided without counsel to wage war on Russia. "The decision to attack in the east made me despair", Goering said.

It was Hitler's decision that German bombers should be used to supply troops cut off at Stalingrad and in other pockets. "There died the core of the German bomber fleet", Goering said - "News Chronicle".

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad

Reminiscences

By

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad

I first came into contact with Pherozeshah in 1889 when the Congress session was held in Bombay and thereafter we came into closer association which continued right upto his death in1915.

He was a born leader of men and his striking personality impressed all who came into contact with him. For 25 years he dominated and led into right lines the public life of India. His work in making the Municipal Corporation of Bombay a model civic institution is an everlasting monument to his sagacity and foresight. He was so devoted to his Corporation work that he gave up a very lucrative practice which he could have easily built up on the original Side or the High Court. He was a man of great courage and stubbornness in pursuing what he considered to be the right course.

When the Prince and the Princess of Wales were to visit India in November 1905, the Corporation in April of that year, unanimously elected Pherozeshah as President so that he might present the Corporation's address to the Royal personages. Pherozeshah invited the attention of government to the precedent of 1875 when the then Prince of Wales came to Bombay. On that occasion the Chairman of the Corporation had been given a prominent place in the reception of Their Royal Highnesses on the steps of the Apollo Bunder.

Government, however, in their Press Note about the reception of the Prince, did not include the President and the Municipal Commissioner and the Sheriff of Bombay among those invited to receive Their Highnesses at the landing steps at Apollo Bunder. This was regarded as a slight to the Corporation and at an informal meeting of the members of the Corporation, it was resolved to convey to government the resentment which their action had evoked. Feelings ran high and some members threatened that when the Corporation met at the Bunder to present their Address, an adjournment of the meeting would be proposed.

On November 8, a day previous to the arrival of Their Royal Highnesses, another informal meeting of the Corporation was called for that evening to consider the situation. finally. In the afternoon, Mr. Edgerley, the Chief Secretary to Government called on Pherozeshah at his residence and discussed the matter with him. Pherozeshah plainly gave Edgerley to understand the serious consequences that would follow if the wishes of the Corporation were disregarded. A little before the appointed time for the Corporation meeting, a message came announcing the capitulation of government and at the informal meeting. Pherozeshah tactfully soothed the ruffled feeling and the incident ended in the triumph of Pherozeshah and the Corporation

In 1912 when King George V and Queen Mary came to India for the Delhi Durbar, Pherozeshah was again elected President of the Corporation. On this occasion however, Sir Sassoon David contested the election but Pherozeshah was elected. Lord Sydenham who was the Governor of Bombay attempted to put the Corporation in the background by suggesting to Sir Shapurji Bharucha, the then Sheriff of Bombay to call a Public Meeting of the citizens of Bombay to vote an address to the King and the Queen. Sydenham's idea was that the citizens' address be presented to Their Majesties at the Apollo Bunder while the address of the Corporation might be presented at the Corporation Hall. When this move became known, it was conveyed to the authorities that if the contemplated attempt was made to put the Corporation in the background, the Corporation would be driven to decide to give no address to Their Majesties. This effectively stopped the vicious move.

In 1907 some European members of the Corporation headed by Mr Harrison, the Accountant-General and assisted by Mr. Sheppard the Municipal Commissioner, conceived the idea of defeating Pherozeshah at the impending elections to the Corporation. Pherozeshah had always been returned by the Justices' constituency which returned 16 members. That constituency comprised a very large number of Europeans and they were worked up to join this plot. Some Indians Justices also fell a prey to these machinations. The result was that Pherozeshah was defeated, standing seventeenth in the elections. Proceedings were taken both in the Small Causes Court and the High Court to set aside the elections on the ground that the date of election had been altered by the Municipal Commissioner which he had no power to do and that the election was not a free election.

Mr. Jinnah appeared in the Small Causes Court. The proceedings lasted many days and several persons closely connected with this shameful episode had to look foolish in the course of this enquiry. The 16th successful candidates was Mr. Suleman Abdul Wahed whose firm had contracts with the Corporation. He was, therefore, declared disqualified and the Pherozeshah automatically came into his place. The coterie that had plotted to diminish the influence of Pherozeshah in the Corporation, miserably failed in their attempt. On the contrary, the result was that the popularity and esteem which he employed increased hundredfold both in the city and throughout the presidency.

Lovat Fraser, the then Editor of the"Times of Inda", had taken a prominent part in the movement and had written in his paper supporting the agitation to oust Pherozeshah from the Corporation. The "Times of India" consequently came into great disfavour with the public and at a public meeting of the citizens of Bombay held at Madhav Bag presided over by the late Mr. Gokhale, the attitude of the "Times of India" was denounced. All this gave rise to the feeling that a daily newspaper voicing the views and feelings of the Indian population should be established in Bombay. This led to the establishment of the "Bombay Chronicle" in 1913 and Mr. B. G. Horniman was appointed editor of the paper.

Pherozeshah wielded great influence in moulding the policies and activities of the Indian National Congress and as long as he lived, he kept that national institution on right lines. His work in the University of Bombay for a long period of years is still gratefully remembered. When Sydenham attempt to attack the autonomy of the University and make it subservient to the wishes of government, Pherozeshah fought valiantly against such attempt and maintained the independence of the University. It is very gratifying that in celebrating the centenary of his birth which falls this year, a movement has been started to collect the necessary funds establishing a chair of Civics and Politicals in the University of Bombay. The Corporation is to be congratulated on giving a lead by subscribing a sum of Rs. 1 lakh towards the funds required. It is hoped that the public of Bombay will respond in a fitting manner to this cause.

NO COMMUNALISM IN POLITICS

Sir P. M. Mehta was out and out opposed to the introduction of communalism in politics. When the question of separate electorate for Muslims was first mooted he was the first to perceive what a bane it was to prove in the future. To quote his own words is was

The first rift in the lute.
Which by and by would make the music mute.

The following are his sage observations on the matter:

"To single out 62 millions from a population of 300 millions for exclusive and exceptional treatment on account of their religion would be an attempt impolitic enough to be perilous."

'It is not honest and fair to Mohamedans to encourage delusive hopes and keep them in darkness as to the true causes of backwardness, for which the remedy is largely in their own hands.

"The measures are bound to create in the public body feelings of race and religious animosities, dangerous to peace and contentment and in the legislature itself a spirit of faction which will mar the utility and lower in public esteem the character of the Legislative Council.

The above words are from the statement issued by Sir Pherozeshah Mehta as chairman of the Bombay Pesidency Association in 1908. It may be of interest to recall that Mr. Jinnah was a member of the Association and endorsed the statement.

Sir Phirozeshah Mehta was one of the outstanding makers of modern India. He deservedly dominated the field of Indian politics and the civic life of Bombay for over twenty-five years. If only Indian politicians had followed in his footsteps and continued his policy, India would have been a free country long ago.

Sir Chimanlal Setalvad

Sir Tej Bahadur S.p.u's Tribute

I had the honour of knowing Sir Pherozeshah Mehta and came into touch with him nearly 30 years ago on several occasions as a member of the Congress Committee of those days. His towering personality, his selfless devotion to the cause of the country, his championship of Indian nationalism and his powerful oratory were a source of inspiration to every one of us in those days.

I very vividly remember the calm and composure with which he met the unfortunate incidents of the Surat Congress in 1907. Among the great builders of the Indian nation he will take his place among the first three or four. I am glad that Bombay is celebrating the Centenary of his birth and that the Bombay Chronicle, which was founded by him, is bringing out a Special Centenary Number in honour of his memory. I would like to respectfully associate myself with any tributes that may be paid to his memory.

Responsive Co-operation

The Political Legacy Of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta

By K. F. Nariman

Usually on the occasion of centenary or even anniversary of great leaders, there are contributions and publications regarding the life of the leader, from so many and varied sources, covering almost all the phases of his life and career, that it becomes difficult, particularly for a contributor who has not been his contemporary, to write anything on the subject that would not be a repetition of the points already published.

Hence, the present effort to write something on this great occasion, has become rather difficult, because I would not like the same topic to be repeated, about Sir Pherozsha Mehta, which at least every citizen of this great city is supposed to know, and which has been repeated again and again by so many publicists and contributors. Still, I should like to say something, that may, I hope, have not struck any other writer on the subject.

While studying and reviewing the life and career of this great patriot and leader, I should like to compare and contrast that period with the present one, and point out such differences, as prevailed in the leadership of the days of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, and the modern more turbulent and spirited times.

Various Activities

One thing that must have struck a normal observer is that the political leaders of to-day, practically restrict their activities to one main sphere of life, and their whole mission is confined to the pursuit of the goal of Swaraj. In other words, their activities, agitations, propaganda and whole career is restricted to the political sphere or its allied subjects, as economics etc., so that when there is a political deadlock or stalemate in political activities in the country, the great leaders becoming practically jobless, either go for long changes and rest as guests of His Majesty's Government in prisons or as guests of some illustrious citizens in salubrious climates, but not so in the days of Sir Pherozshah Mehta and even of Sri Lokamanya and the rest.

Gem With Many Facets

Sir Pherozshah Mehta was undoubtedly a great politician and balanced statesman, and is rightly applauded even to-day as one of the few great founders of the National Congress, and as the instance of the Surat Congress demonstrates, on occasions, when the crisis demanded, he, even, like the present day leaders and workers, could be in the thick of the turmoil of the fight, but at the same time, his attention and energy were equally divided to so many other useful spheres of life and activity, so that if there was a stalemate or deadlock in politics, he was never idle but devoted himself with greater enthusiasm and zest to other equally useful and vital activities

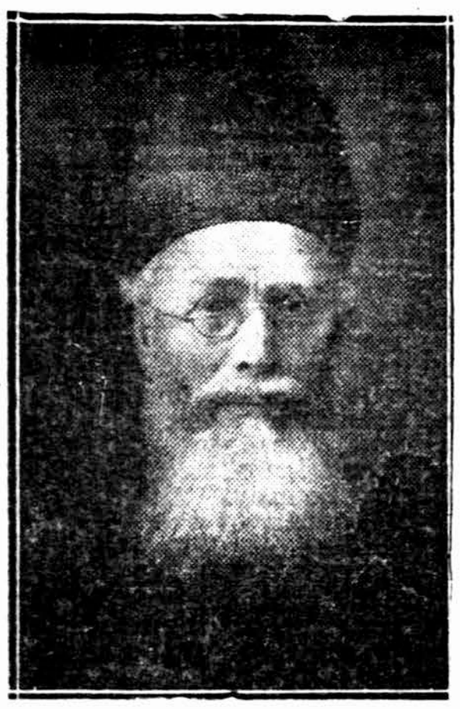
Civic And Educational Work

To give one instance, there is no political leader to-day, or as a

(Continued on Page 19)

ANECDOTES OF THE CHAM

By Faiz B. Tyabji



The late Dadabhai Naoroji, the G.O.M. of India, and the—friend, philospher and guide of Sir Phirozeshah.

Though Sir Pherozeshah Mehta was very much my senior, I had many occasions to come into contact with him. My relations with him had had for sponsors and god-parents the close friendship and association in public life between my father and Sir Pherozeshah. The two happened also to live in the same neighbourhood, in Bombay as well as Matheran.

My earliest recollections of Sir Pherozeshah are very clear. As a child, I used to see him walking along Warden Road for his morning constitutional. I can still picture him with a huge "Mrs. Gamp" umbrella: that is how he used to call it, as it had a white loose cover over it, so as to afford double protection against the sun. This twofold armour became necessary as the walk was undertaken when the sun was well up—When it was time for school children to be on their way to school.

Fastidious Appearance

My curiosity was naturally excited. We all knew him as a great and distinguished personality. Even the policeman could not only pointout the great man's house, but also explain why it was that he could be seen walking out so late in the morning. Our attention was drawn to his scrupulous care for his costume, and toilet: and surely he could not be dressed so very carefully in less than two hours. Obviously he required the attendance of skilled valets and expert hair-dressers; no one, however important could approach or disturb Pherozeshah Mehta when he was being so attended upon.

He was known for being distinguished, even fastidious, in regard to his dress and appearance to the last. I remember it being remarked that his hair retained its glossy black hue long after his contemporaries had become gray. Most people could point to his vigorous frame and energetic ways as sufficient explanation for being exempt from the albescent shock that hair is heir to. Such persons were strengthened in their view later on, as when it was obvious that he was no more a young man, a few stray gray hairs struggled into visibility. But nothing can convince confirmed unbelievers. These smiled a very wise smile, and hinted at what an additional half or quarter hour of toilet might accomplish.

Unique Position

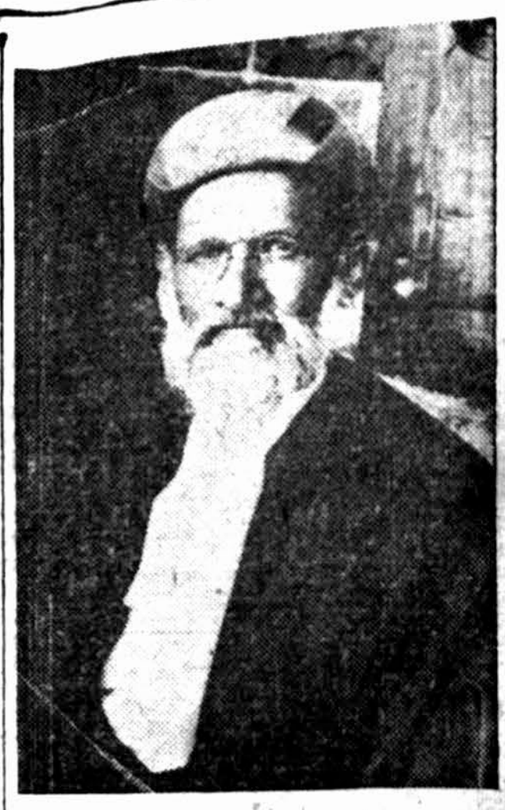
Be the solution of such mysteries left to experts and specialists. My memory takes me now to the age when I was an undergraduate, and Sir Pherozeshah had become one of the three leading personalities in the public and then remained as the sole survivor of the three. His position in the whole of India had become unique. Certainly no one could claim to be on a higher footing in public estimation. He was the acknowledged life and soul of the Bombay Municipal Corporation and influenced the University of Bombay only in a slightly less degree. He could be heard as a vigorous and fearless orator on the public platforms, at every important meeting.

A little later I came to appreciate how he had established his power in such bodies as the Senate of the Bombay University. He was assiduous in attention to his duties. He always knew the details of the material facts. He was a complete master of the complicated rules and procedure and of all relevant precedents. This often enabled him to steer his course most advantageously. One incident I can clearly recall. He had been fighting very vigorously a losing battle. But an occasion came when his opponents placed themselves in his hands by his inducing them to vote on an amendment in such a manner as to render their previous successes entirely infructuous, and under the rules the whole question had to be shelved for half a year.

But I have no need to speak of these public activities of Sir Pherozeshah since they have been many times dealt with by those who stood nearer to him in age and standing. It will be more becoming if I speak of my own personal contacts with him.

A Lawyer's Conscience

The association in public life between Sir Pherozeshah and my father came to an end when the latter became a Judge, but this did not mean that they did not exchange friendly visits, their personal friendship did not end with their political association. I continued to meet Sir Pherozeshah, especially at Matheran where too he was my father's neighbour and where he had more time to spare. We used to encounter him very often during his walks. That



The late Justice Tyebji a great friend of Sir Pherozeshah and the father of the author of this article.

gave him an excellent opportunity of exercising the peculiar faculty he had of charming into admiration the young and of drawing them near to him in spite of disparity of age and status. He met young people so simply and seemed to remember them so distinctly. He was always able to spare a few kind, even friendly words for the least important.

I have a very vivid recollection of one occasion when he came over for a friendly chat with my father at Matheran. He told us a number of interesting experiences and related the gossip of public life to which my father turned an eager ear. Amongst other things he related with evident enjoyment that at the session of the Legislative Council which had then concluded he had put some very searching questions about some Indian State, urging Government to make enquiries and redress what was wrong. He said his questions so alarmed the authorities of the State that they came to consult him as counsel and engaged his services as adviser of the State. As he informed us that he rad charged a very high fee indeed for his professional services, he smiled quizzically at me and said: "A lawyer's conscience is apt to get blunted you know when a question of fees arises!"

The last phase in which I remember him is at the daily gatherings—or darbars—that took place in his chambers, when the politically-minded Indians came to him to air their views on the questions of the day. There would be discussions, but, of course, the Great Cham's word was final. At these gatherings too the impression on my mind was that Sir Pherozeshah exercised his power and authority with great tact, though vigorously and like an absolute ruler. It was impossible not to admire him for his interest in and knowledge and experience of all public affairs.

TWO TRIBUTES

I am so glad that the initiative I took when as Mayor for these celebrations has met with such splendid response. Sir Pherozeshah is truly considered the father of civic life. His contribution to our political advance is no less. He and a band of great Indians had a very important role in founding the greatest of our political organisations—the Indian National Congress. A tower of strength, he like a lion as he was justly called, struck terror in the hearts of those who were imperialistically minded and who stood in the way of our freedom and inspired vigour and a love for freedom amongst the people of this country. He has gone but his life and work remain with us as a great beaconlight which guides our path. The centenary celebrations will revive all those invigorating memories of the fight for freedom in those days and the deep debt which we all owe to him and his great colleagues.

— Nagindas T. Master

The impress which Sir Phirozeshah Mehta has left upon the political life of India is indelible and unforgettable. He was a genuine Liberal to the most noble sense of that term and I am very sorry that the race is now extinct. Courageous, dignified, quick to resent any injury to the self-respect of our country, able to hold his own against most formidable of the British rulers of his day, through and far sighted, Sir Phirozeshah was the most dominant figure of his time which was distinguished by a large number of intellectual and moral giants. He inspired and guided Mr. Gokhale and a number of other political workers. His services to the city of Bombay are incomparable. I pay my genuine tribute of respect to the memory of this doyen among patriots, politicians and statesmen who laid the foundations of the civic and political life of Bombay.

B. G. Kher

MUSSOLINI'S WIFE IS WRITING A BOOK

Mrs. Benito Mussolini, reviewing her life for 36 turbulent years with the late "Il Duce", said that her great regret was they did not go to the United States in their youth, as they planned, to raise a family or Americans, writes Ann Stringer, United Press of America correspondent.

"We were happiest in the old days", she said. "We never really had a home after 1925. We were happy before that. We should have gone to America when we first got married. We planned to do it and talked much about. We planned to live there and raise children there.

"But the Mussolini"—she never called him Benito—"Changed his mind. He felt himself too powerful and his friends persuaded him to betray the workers. But his sympathies were always with the working class."

I found the widow of Mussolini inside the barbed wire enclosure of Terni internment camp where she is held protectively with her two younger children, Romano, 17, and Anna Marie, 16. They live in a six-room apartment in the camp hospital, and homeloving Rachele Mussolini at her own request does all the cooking for the 42 patients.

The camp is an abandoned synthetic rubber factory.

At times choking with sobs or screaming denunciation of her husband's mistresses. Donna Rachele told me of the last day before her husband was executed last April 28.

"I last saw Mussolini about eight days before he was killed", she said "I talked to him on the phone about six or seven hours before he died He called me at 3 a.m and told me to try to get to Switzerland. He said if I failed to turn myself and the children over to American authorities. Of course I knew something was wrong. I knew he was in danger because he told me he was with the partisans But I did not know he was going to be killed.

Donna Rachele is far from the Buxom Italian peasant I had read of. She is frail, pale, slight, attractive at 56 years. She wore her ash gray hair bound up aunt Jemina style in a light blue printed silk kerchief. She wore a little black real silk dress with a deepish V-neck, puffed sleeves and flapperish pleated skirt. She wore no stockings but had on ultra-smart high heeled openwork black sandals. She has startingly blue large—and pretty—eyes against a pale, transparent skin.

She broke down, sobbed and hit the table before her with her fists as she recalled the last time she saw and talked to her husband.

I asked her about Clara Petacci who died with Mussolini. Her eyes flashed. She pushed herself far back in her chair, sat up straight, and said.

"They've done well to hang her She was the only one around Mussolini who really had anything to do with the Germans."

She beat the table again and her voice was shrill as she continued:

"Mussolini never had anything to do with women. He never let them have any influence over him. That was propaganda. Just to ruin him Mussolini had at most five minutes with a woman. Then he would leave them.

"He only saw Petacci once at lake Como while we were staying there towards the last.

I asked Donna Rachele whether she herself had any influence over Mussolini. Then she laughed almost gaily, shrugged and said:

"Of course—in a way. He really trusted me. He was very sincere. He had a lot of affection for me. Probably I am the only woman who really thought something of him. I was the only woman he ever thought anything of. He really did like his family—to an extent that no other man in the world could.

"I have started to write a book, a story of my life and his life. I lived 36 years with Mussolini I knew him better than anyone else in the world."

She started crying again and put her hand, with its stubby fingers and kitchen-worm fingernails to her forehead.

"But I was never close to him when he was high," she said. "I was always with him when he was down."

I asked her about Mussolini signing the Axis Pact.

"Everybody is to blame for that" she shouted passionately. "Everybody from Badoglio up to the King. They all blame Mussolini. They killed him, while Badoglio's mistress lives in Switzerland with millions of dollars."

(Marshal Pietro Badoglio, former chief of the Italian General Staff, was Premier after Mussolini's fall).

I asked her if her daughter Edda widow of Count Galeazzo Ciano, whom Mussolini executed, had any influence over Mussolini.

"Of course", she said. "She is a very intelligent woman."

I asked her whether Edda broke with Mussolini after he killed her husband.

"Many things can be said in the family when the doors of the home are closed", Donna Rachele replied.

British officials explained that Donna Rachele and her children were not prisoners and were not even enrolled in the camp. They are held for their own protection. Donna Rachele sometimes walks inside the camp fence but she likes to work all the time. The children are shy but visit the shows held for camp officials and internees.

I pointed out to her that even the Italian Government had no charge against her.

"We'd rather stay right ner than pass under the hands of the Government", she said. She laughed and shrugged her shoulders. "We are well treated here. The Italians never treated me so well."

She said she had no property except what she brought here—Several thousands of Italian lire and Swiss Francs, three bars of gold and some bonds of unknown value. Explaining her kitchen work, she said:

"I must have something to do. I always did my own housework."

The authorities sent her a British orderly after she volunteered as cook.

She refused to let him to do any work and in a few days he was withdrawn.

As the interview ended Donna Rachele smiled, shook hands, walked out the door and stopping short, turned.

"Mussolini was a very intelligent man" she said. "Probaby one day you'll realize it."

She turned, started walking again, wheeled and shouted louder.

"And tell them I said so!"

Pherozeshah Mehta As I Knew Him

THE LAST OF THE POLITICAL BARONS

By N. C. Kelkar

The veteran leader and author of Maharashtra writes about the association of Sir Pherozeshah with Tilak, Gokhale and other eminent men of his times.

I have great pleasure, on the occasion of his Birthday centenary, in paying my tribute, to the memory of the late Sir P. M. Mehta, along with many other admirers of that great Bombay leader. But I would like to confine myself as far as possible, to my own personal knowledge of him.

The first time I heard Pherozshah's name was in 1882, when the proceedings of the Kolhapur Case—The prosecution of Tilak and Agarkar as Editors of "The Mahratta" and the "Kesari" for the defamation of R. B. M. V. Barve, Dewan of Kolhapur)—were being talked about among my elders. For I was then too young to read newspapers and understand them. Great sympathy was being felt throughout Maharashtra for Tilak and Agarkar, who were regarded as lucky in securing Pherozshah Mehta as Counsel for Defence. In particular I remember one question which, it was reported, was asked by Mehta in his cross examination of Barve viz. "Mr. Barve, have you ever played any part as an actor in any dramatic performance?—a question which naturally appealed to my juvenile imagination."

I saw him for the first time in 1892 in the University convocation, which I attended for taking my B.A. degree and diploma. He at once impressed me as an outstanding figure among all the University Senators, who had assembled to patronise us—young graduates—by their presence.

First Meeting

The first time I talked with him personally was in 1899. It was in his well-known chamber, where I attended at his command, and was introduced to him as Editor of "The Mahratta" by my friend, the late S. S. Setlur then an Advocate in the Bombay High Court.

I believe Setlur, Bhajekar and other friends of mine had already mentioned me as a young promising journalist, who had been appointed by Tilak to be the declared Editor of that paper, in his absence, when he was convicted for sedition in 1897. And Mehta wanted me to see him and receive his advice to openly criticize and condemn Mr. S. M. Paranjpe who, as it was reported to him, was writing in his Marathi paper, the "Kal" articles justifying violence as a political weapon. My interview with Mehta lasted for nearly an hour. In this interview I forcefully argued that I was under no obligation to go out of my way to condemn a contemporary Editor, as if I was an official critic or censor, even though personally I might differ from him.

It seemed Mehta was not prepared for such reasoned and firm non-submission to his command, and he actually said to me in great anger "Well, Mr. Kelkar, I shall run my pencil through the name of Poona" meaning thereby perhaps, that Poona, so far as it was represented by the Tilak School of Papers, would be deprived of even such crumbs of favour and patronage, as his public notice and attention may possibly bestow on them. He did not, of course, like my disobedience of his command, but said to Setlur afterwards that he somehow liked me and my bold attitude in our discussion.

Question Of Congress Constitution

In 1904 I attended the Indian National Congress held in Bombay under the presidentship of Sir Henry Cotton. And I vividly remember the heated tussle between Mehta and Lala Lajpatrai over the question of a constitution for the Congress. The point of controversy was that in the opinion of Mehta, and perhaps also of the circle of his colleagues of the Presidency Association, the National Congress was yet too young and too fluid to be submitted to a constitutional steel frame. Lala Lajpatrai was of a different opinion, and had already written in his paper, criticizing the elder leaders of the Congress as carpet baggers and holiday picknikers, who were content once a year to assemble at some provincial centre, for a couple of days, and pass certain resolutions, which for want of personal contact made no appeal to the masses and which were disregarded by Government as having no following behind them. Mehta's own view was that not more than occasional focussing, and voicing of enlightened public opinion on political questions, could be attempted for the present, and that a rigid constitution for the Congress would make politics a mere party affair.

The time had, however, arrived when, at the Surat Congress, in 1907 a rigid constitution for the Congress was regarded by Mehta as the only remedy for consolidating the Liberal Political Party, and keeping the Congress in its own hand by the exclusion of the extremist Congressmen of Maharashtra and Bengal. I was a witness to the Surat Congress, where Tilak and Mehta schools of politics came into open conflict; and the numerical verdict about the victory of one party over the other was saved by the break up of the Congress session itself amidst tumult and rioting. A Convention took the place of the National Congress, a rigid constitution was framed, with restrictions upon membership, and for eight years afterwards the Congress was operating like the beleaguered garrison of a fortress, on the strength mainly of the repugnance of the besiegers to cross the surrounding ditch, owing to the unwholesome or poisonous character of the water that filled the moat.

Mehta, however, was ready by the year 1915 to relent and modify the constitution of the Congress so as to make it possible for the Nationalist Party to enter the Congress without injury to its idealism, though he knew that the Liberal Party would be swamped by the Nationalist flood.

Respect For The G. O. M.

For once and once only, I saw Mehta occupying a second seat when, at the Calcutta Congress in 1906, he attended more as a caretaker of his Guru Dadabhai Naoroji, than as a Congress delegate. Dadabhai was the president-elect of the Congress session, and Mehta was anxious that the senility of the eighty year old leader and disappointed patriot may not take a turn towards garrulity of extremism. But Mehta could not prevent the Grand Old Man from opening his heart and declaring that his disappointment in his political struggle with the British Government was so great that a younger man in his place would have started a regular rebellion! Any way I saw here, for the first time, Mehta acting and serving like a pupil and assistant attending upon and ministering to a 'Guru', in such humility as did great credit both to the 'Guru' and the disciple.

I shall finish these reminiscences with relating one more incident. After this Calcutta Congress, which passed the famous fourfold resolution—Swarajya, Swadeshi, Boycott and National Education—the Bombay Provincial Conference was held at Surat. Lok. Tilak could not somehow attend this Conference, and it fell to me, along with my senior colleagues like Mr. C. V. Vaidya and Prof. Bijapurkar to fight for the passing, by the Conference, of a resolution on the last item—national education. I moved a motion to that effect in the Subjects Committee, but was opposed by Pherozshah Mehta himself, who was persuaded by the Surat people, against his usual practice, personally to attend the Conference. Dr. Bhalchandra, a well-meaning but weak man, was formally the President of the Conference and hence also Chairman of the Subjects Committee.

But Mehta could not help dominating the Subjects Committee and actually directing its proceedings. He played the skilful trick of kindliness and condescension. He asked me to go and sit by his side, as if to keep me handy for personal discussion during the debate. I considered it an honour and also a convenience to go and sit near him, but was thus effectively separated from my colleagues, who were speaking and acting in concert for the purpose of canvassing for a vote on the National Education resolution. In the end we won a majority vote for our resolution, but Mehta declared that the motion was lost, and when I demanded a poll, he used all the influence as a leader and dictator, and good humouredly prevented me from making trouble, by peremptorily holding me down by the hand as a father would do an ill-behaving son. He knew how the matter really stood. But he was determined on putting on it a domestic aspect, as it were, exercising his prerogative as a dictator and maintaining his view, majority or no majority.

Court Affairs

I came in contact with him in Court affairs on two occasions. In 1905 a Marwari friend of mine had the ill-luck of being ordered to be prosecuted for perjury by the Poona City Magistrate. The task of securing Mehta as counsel for the accused fell on me. So I went to Matheran and briefed him for a fee of eight hundred rupees. When we received him at the station on the fixed date, the first question he put me was "Kelkar, have you looked up the authorities for the Defence?" I readily replied that that was done already, because, I knew, I said, he would be coming straight from the hill-station to the Court, and would have no time to spend in the Library. The Poona pleader who had appeared for the Marwari in the Majesterial Court was also present, and Mehta was jolly well pleased, and won the appeal against the order for prosecution after arguing the case for an hour.

In 1908 after Tilak was sentenced by Justice Davar to six years transportation, I lost my temper and lost also the little legal sense I possessed as an LL.B. I wrote a slashing article against Davar, and was summoned to answer for Contempt of Court. I was at the time in Bombay, arranging for a speedy printing of the Tilak Case, and was advised by the late Mr. N V. Gokhale to see Pherozeshah Mehta and seek his advice. So I went with Gokhale to Mehta's chamber. He had read the article and was mightily pleased with it as a literary production, but was very sorry for the fate that, he was sure, awaited me. The advice he gave me was in these words "Either unreservedly apologise for the writing, or, if you have the courage to do so, you may justify it, but it will only aggravate the position. I did neither apologise nor aggravate. The result was two weeks simple imprisonment, a fine of 1,200 rupees as costs, and imprisonment till I apologised!

A Real Lion

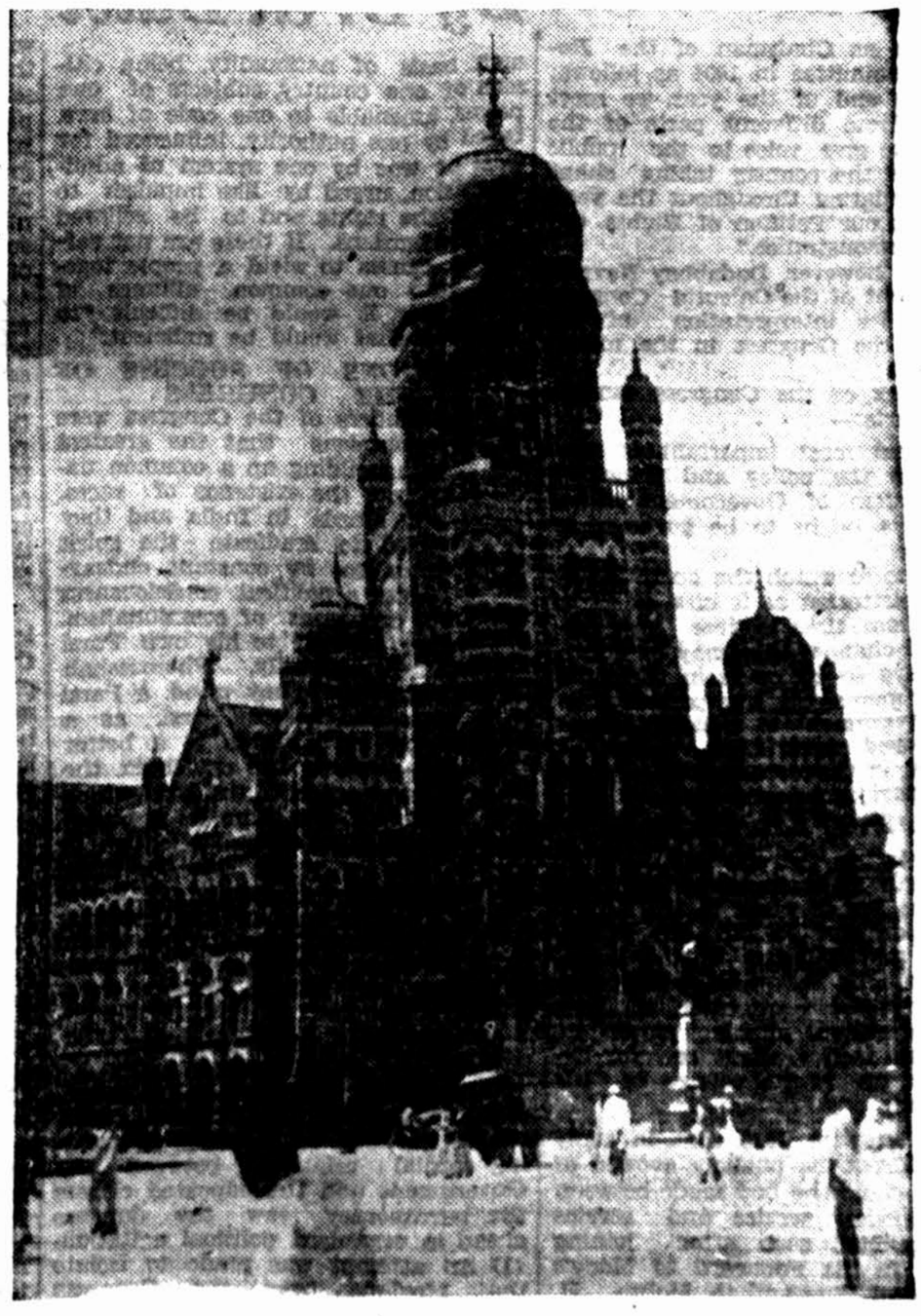
Among all the public leaders with whom I came into contact in my life, none impressed me so much as Pherozshah Mehta, in the sense of a real 'personality'. You had simply to look at him to realise why he was called the "Lion of Bombay". He was really leonine in many respects. A tall figure, a well proportioned body, a very fair complexion, a massive face a remarkably broad and noble forehead, a big acquiline Parsee nose—but all these would be nothing if he had not the gift of two things, (1) deep sonorous voice which rumbled like the thunder of a stormy cloud, and (2) a full big well-shaped moustache and whiskers both of which suggested the idea of a real lion.

And really like a lion he treaded for one generation the field of public life not only in Bombay City but almost throughout India.

I have just at this moment, before my mind's eye, his many colleagues, co-workers and assistants, who thronged his Chamber and were proud of attention and advice, but none of whom could rival or come upto him. There was, for example, Umiya Shanker Yajnik, the calm wise but matter of fact Gujrathi, tenacious but almost apologetic. There was Dinsha Wacha, a dynamic personality, a close student of facts and figures, an apt and willing henchman, ready to argue with but also as ready to be suppressed by Mehta as his acknowledged leader. There was Dr. Bhalchandra, an inoffensive well-meaning man, all sweet like his own medical prescription but without much political insight almost without any views of his own and not the least fight in where opposition to any official was concerned.

There was Daji Abaji Khare, a keen lawyer who would without fear, argue with Mehta but always too immersed in his professional business to think

(Continued on Page 20)



Another view of the Bombay Municipal Corporation.

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta & The Indian National Congress

By D. G. Dalvi

It is a happy coincidence that the birth-centenary of Pherozeshah Mehta and the Diamond Jubilee of the Indian National Congress fall in the same year. Of the sixty years of the Congress, the first half of the period is illumined by the valuable services rendered to the national assembly by Pherozeshah Mehta from its birth to his death (1885-1915). The principles and policy laid down by the Congress formed the chart and compass—which regulated him in adopting measures in his several spheres of activity—the Legislative Councils, the Municipal Corporation and the University Senate. A brief survey of the services he rendered to the Congress will, in my opinion, be a suitable contribution to the celebration of his Birth-centenary.

PREPARATORY STAGE

With the establishment of the Universities the demand for better social and economic conditions arose among the educated classes. A spirit of resistance to retrogade measures like the Volunteers Act and Vernacular Press Act manifested itself in Bombay. Intense opposition by the European citizens in India to the Ilbert Bill in the regime of Lord Ripon was the signal for strong and united support to the measure by educated India. Changed times required new vehicles of thought, and for organised political activity, associations like, the Mahajan Sabha in Madras, Indian Association in Calcutta, Sarvajanik Sabha in Poona and the Bombay Presidency Association in Bombay were established. In Bombay, the foundation of political life was laid by the noble trinity of young patriots, Pherozeshah, Telang and Baddrudin Tyebji, who founded the Bombay Presidency Association early in 1885.

OBJECT OF THE CONGRESS

While political associations in different parts of the country shaped their policies according to local conditions the necessity for a central organisation for India as a whole was soon felt for bringing about uniformity of policy and creating unity of purpose and action. Pherozeshah Mehta formulated the object of holding the sessions of the Congress in his speech as Chairman of the Reception Committee in 1904 as follows:

"At the end of the year, we meet together from different parts of the country to give voice to the public opinion of the country taking shape and formulating throughout the year, to present our Petition of Rights, our Grand Remonstrance."

In 1906, however, Dadabhoy Navroji, as President of the Calcutta Congress gave a wider interpretation of the object of the Congress in the following terms:

The work of the Congress consists of two parts:—

First and most important is the question of the policy and principles of the system of Government under which India ought to be governed in the future.

Second is to watch the operation of the administration as it now exists to propose from time to time any reforms and changes that may be deemed necessary to be made in the various departments till the present system of government is radically altered and based upon right principles and policy in the accomplishment of the first part mentioned above."

SACRIFICE AND SERVICE

In estimating the life and work of Pherozeshah Mehta and his continuous service for 45 years in the Municipal Corporation, for 30 years in the Congress and 23 years in the Legislative Councils, the outstanding fact which arrests our attention is that at the threshhold of his career at the bar, he took a silent vow for devoting his life to the service of his motherland.

It was only in 1910 that, in reply to an address, he publicly avowed of the silent choice he had made between public (official) service and service of the public", soon after joining the bar. In his Foreword to Mody's biography of Pherozeshah Mehta, H. H. the Aga Khan records his opinion about him that

"His simple nature was so free from hypocrisy and conceit, that, while he could admire the renunciation of Gokhale and the sacrifices of Mr. B. G. Tilak, he never realised that, while he had not taken any such vows or made any such declaration, he had made in his own life the greatest sacrifice of all."

The founders of the Congress were conscious of the dangers ahead in the prevailing conditions and watched the growth of the tender plant with parental care and foresight. Their first concern was to secure recognition at the hands of the British Government that the Congress was the authoritative spokesman of the Indian people. There were four stages in which, Congress had to pass (1) Ridicule (2) Abuse. (3) partial concession and (4) finally substantial adoption of the object of the movement by the British Authorities. In his presidential address at Calcutta in 1890 Pherozeshah asserted that it had survived the ridicule, the abuse and the misrepresentation. The Congress had become one of the recognised institutions of the country, an unconventional convention of the Empire and already earned a place in history." These builders of the Congress honestly believed in the beneficence of British rule in India and avowed their loyalty to the Crown without any reservation. From the platform of the Calcutta Congress Pherozeshah Mehta declared in 1890, that

"The policy of the Congress is thus, a policy, not seditious or revolutionary, but conservative of the public welfare,—strengthening the just authority of the British Government and adding day by day fresh lustre and dignity to the Imperial Crown."

The principal aim of the founders of the Congress was to create a spirit of common nationhood among the Indian people by a gradual process of welding the heterogenous elements of race and creed into a homogenous nationality. How this process was slowly and silently working itself out is explained by Pherozeshah Mehta in the following terms: —

"The members of the Congress meet together as men on the common basis of nationality, being citizens of one country, subjects of one power, amenable to one code of laws, taxed by one authority, influenced for weal or woe by one system of administration, urged by like impulses to secure the rights and to be relieved of the burdens. If these are not sufficient causes to wield a people together into one common alliance of nationality, it would be difficult "to conceive what would be sufficient."

CONDITIONS OF SUCCESS OF THE CONGRESS

The founders of the Congress were deeply conscious that the greatest obstacle in building up a common nationality was the existence of races, castes and creeds in India and they endeavoured to eradicate the spirit of communalism by constant endeavour to foster a political consciousness free from any taint of communalism. Addressing himself to his own Parsi community primarily, Pherozeshah Mehta observed "to my mind, a Parsi is a truer and better Parsi, as a Mahomedan or a Hindu is a better and truer—Mahomedan or Hindu, the more he is attached to the land which gave him birth, the more he is bound in brotherly relations and affection to all the children of the soil, the more he recognises the fraternity of all the native communities of his country and the immutable bond which binds them together in the pursuit of common aims and objects under a common Government."

INITIAL DIFFICULTIES OVERCOME

Though Mr. Hume took the initiative in organising the Congress with official goodwill, as a means of creating cordial relations between the Government and the educated classes the bureaucracy saw the dangers ahead in organised political agitation. (1) An attempt was made to isolate the Muslims from the Congress through Sir Syed Ahmed of Aligarh College and the Zamindars through Raja Shivaprasad Gupta. But it did not prevent the Congress from gaining prestige and influence in the country. (2) Then the claim of the educated classes to represent the country was challenged. They were ridiculed as a 'microscopic minority" Pherozeshah Mehta repelled this charge, asserting that the delegates to the Congress were "representatives of the people, not selected, it is true, by any authoritative or scientific process, but still representatives in all the various ways in which virtual representation works itself out in the early stages of its progressive development, representatives who are of the people and in immediate touch and contact with them, representatives realising in themselves the wants, the wishes, the sentiments .the aspirations of the people, representatives whose education has qualified them to ponder over grave questions of policy and principles in their application to the administration and Government of this country in all their complex relations of a foreign rule."

(3) Then we were told that social reform should take precedence over political reform. (4) Finally the representative character of the Congress was denied owing to the absence of the masses, or those whom Sir W. Lee-Warner described as "low castes." Pherozeshah Mehta met this plea effectively by pointing out the slow growth of the British Parliament till the Reforms Act of 1832 and urged that

"The laws of nature as well as the lessons of history both teach us that the beginnings may well be incomplete and inadequate, that too much must not be made of fanciful difficulties about the rights of minorities and lower classes and that the work of completion should be left to time."

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE CONGRESS

In his speech as chairman of the Reception Committee of the Congress in 1904, Pherozeshah Mehta has taken pains to enumerate seriatim, the achievements of the Congress in the field of administrative reform. I refrain from going into these details for want of space, particularly, as they are of little interest at this distance of time. During the first thirty years of the Congress there came two instalments of constitutional reform, (1) the India Councils Act of 1892 and (2) the Morley-Minto Reforms of 1910, (3) As I shall show presently the Montagu Chelmsford Reforms may, to a certain extent be traced to him, as he had laid the foundation in the Congress, for what is now known as the Montague Declaration of 1917. Soon after its foundation, Congress took in hand the reform and expansion of the Councils and when Lord Cross's Bill was announced in 1890, Pherozeshah Mehta regarded it as "the official recognition of the raison-d-etre of the Congress and the first fruits of its labour." It was after a hard struggle that Congress succeeded in obtaining recognition of the principle of election, instead of nomination, to the Councils. Lord Salisbury had opposed it on the ground that "the principle of election or government by representation was not an Eastern idea and that it did not fit Eastern traditions or Eastern minds." Mr. Charles Bradlaugh had strongly championed the cause of India in Parliament by introducing a Bill and had attended the sessions of the Congress in 1889. In the Morley-Minto Reforms, the Councils were further expanded and the elective principle extended with enhanced powers given to the Councils. The new principle of this measure was the admission of one Indian member into the Executive Council. In the light of subsequent developments, we are apt to minimise the value of these two instalments of reform. If we take into consideration the degree and extent of political consciousness of the people in the early years of the Congress, we cannot withhold our meed of praise for the efforts of the stalwarts of the Congress in laying the foundation of the constitutional structure on which the succeeding generation is now making strenuous efforts to build.

The Author

A NEW PARTY IN THE CONGRESS

The closing years of the last century were marked by growing political discontent in the country owing to the unresponsive attitude of the Government, popular discontent rose to a new and ugly level and took a wrong turn in certain parts of the country. Political murder and the cult of the bomb raised their ugly head. Instead of meeting discontent half-way, the Government resorted to repression during the regime of Lord Curzon. His proposal for the Partition of Bengal only added fuel to the fire. This extreme discontent was reflected in the annual sessions of the Congress. A new party led by what was described as the new trinity of Lal Bal and Pal was vociferous in demanding a radical change of Congress

(Continued On Page 23)

Pherozeshah's Warning To Britain

The following excerpt from his speech delivered in 1873 on the Ilbert Bill was laden with prophetic wisdom, the truth of which we can well appreciate now in 1945.

"India maintained by England by the power of her armies would be a heavy burden on her in case of her being involved in European complications likely to be caused by the contests, rivalries and ambitions of other European powers. She may find herself in a predicament in which India many simply hang like a milestone round her neck, we must not forget the contingency of the American powers appearing on the scene and complicating matters dreadfully."

"Secondly there is another Nemesis attending the policy of force. That policy would require day by day larger English Armies and larger English civil services In progress of time large numbers of English men trained in the maxims of despotism and saturated with autocratic predilections would return to their native homes where they would not but look with intolerance on free and constitutional forms. Rome was once proud of her sturdy freedom and her republicanism. She lost both in extension of her despotic Empire. England must raise India to her level or India will drag her down to hers."

"The third consideration relates to the benefits derived from commercial intercourse between the two countries with a policy of force the resources of India would be drained in the first instance in maintaining large costly armies and huge services. The country would be thus too much impoverished to admit of her developing the great material resources which nature has showered on her. In India impoverished and emasculated, the English Merchant would only be an emaciated attendant.

Review Of Chimur-Ashti Case?

GLOOM IN WARDHA

SEVAGRAM, August 4. (U.P.I.): A gloomy atmosphere prevails in the political circles here due to the news of dismissal of the appeal on behalf of the Ashti and Chimur prisoners by the Privy Council.

Mr. Gopalrao Kale, Vice-President, Nagpur Provincial Congress Committee, told the "United Press": "The dismissal by the Privy Council is distressing in the extreme. Now the only hope lay on the efforts of our revered leaders. Let us hope that their efforts will be crowned with success and the patriots saved from gallows. This is the least India expects after the Congress stand at Simla and Labour victory in England".

It is learnt that numerous telegrams are pouring in Sevagram regarding the condemned prisoners of Ashti and Chimur and Mahendra Choudhury, Pipla, Monghyr District. A number of citizens of Bhagalpur and some institutions have also sent telegrams to Mahatma Gandhi requesting him to do something to save his life. It is understood that Mahatma Gandhi has written to the Viceroy regarding the condemned prisoners.

Destruction Of Tri-Colour Averted

NAGPUR, August 4. (U.P.I.): Destruction of the Congress flag was averted following the action by a local magistrate correcting a clerical error in his judgment.

Four Congress workers from Ramtek were sentenced to six months' R. I. each in connection with the last Independence Day celebrations. The magistrate passed orders that the tricolour flag seized by the police from them be destroyed. Lawyers for the accused filed an application in the court that the magistrate's order for destruction of the flag injured feelings of the accused as well as a number of others who revered the flag.

The magistrate thereupon passed an order that what he really meant was that the flag should be returned and that the word "destroyed" had crept in the judgment due to clerical oversight. The judgment was corrected accordingly.

SARDAR PATEL PULLS UP MILL AGENTS

AHMEDABAD, Aug. 3 (A.P.I.)

An appeal to the mill agents and merchants to stop black markets in Gujarat was made by Sardar Vallabhbhai Patel at a reception organised by 112 mercantile associations on the grounds of the Maskati Cloth Market Association.

He said that when the members of the Working Committee were in jail, they were pained to know the plight of the people in the country, and it was to afford relief to them that they proceeded to Simla immediately on their release in spite of their broken health.

The merchants and mill agents, he said, had erred in taking advantage of the plight of the people and they should mend their ways. Although the Simla Conference had failed he went on, there was no doubt that a National Government would be soon established in the country. The National Government would stop black markets when it came into power but it would not be creditable to some of the mill agents and merchants of Gujarat who owed allegiance to the Congress. It was their double duty to stop black markets.

"WHAT ABOUT INDIA?"

German Navymen's Retort To "Horror Picture"

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, August 4

"The News Chronicle" gives prominence to a dispatch from Flensburg. It is also published in other London newspapers. It says that German naval ratings laughed and jeered at the newsreel films of Belsen and Buchenwald concentration camps shown to them at Flensburg.

A senior British Naval Officer told the "News Chronicle" correspondent that many of the ratings made derisive comments throughout the screening and called out: "What About India?"

According to the "News Chronicle" correspondent Field-Marshal Montgomery, it is understood, has directed that there should be no more concentration camp or—"Nazi horror" publicity in German press, radio or cinema.

NEW INDIA SECRETARY CALLS FOR PAPERS

India League Deputation To Urge Amnesty

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, August 4: It was learnt late last night, that Mr. Pethick-Lawrence has asked for the papers of those condemned to death in the Chimur-Ashti trial. He has received fresh representations to review the sentences.

INDIA LEAGUE DEPUTATION

Sir Ardeshir Dalal will be the first Indian caller on Mr. Pethick-Lawrence. Sir A. Dalal had postponed his departure to India in order to meet the new India Secretary. If succeeds in meeting Mr. Pethick-Lawrence to-day, Sir A. Dalal proposes to leave for India to-morrow.

The first deputation Mr. Pethick-Lawrence will be receiving will be from the India League's Parliamentary Committee. It will urge restoration of civil liberties in India and release of all politicals, amnesty for the Chimur-Asthi prisoners presently under death sentence and also for others connected with the August disturbances.

Mercy Petitions For Chimur-Ashti Accused

NAGPUR, August 3. (A.P.I.). Mercy petitions on behalf of the seven prisoners who have been sentenced to death in Chimur-Ashti murder cases are being sent to the Viceroy and the Governor of C. P.

Mrs. Anasuyabai Kale saw Mahatma Gandhi at Sewagram this morning and asked him whether anything more could be done to save the seven lives, following the refusal by Privy Council of leave to appeal. Gandhiji is reported to have told her that all humanly possible had been done, and the rest remains in the hands of God.

Mrs. Kale returned from Sevagram disheartened, but to-night she received a telephone message from Mahatma Gandhi who told her that mercy petitions should be sent. Mrs. Kale is accordingly sending mercy petitions to-morrow.

SAVE MAHENDRA CHOWDHRY

Appeal For Mercy Sent To King

PATNA, Aug. 4 (API): An appeal for mercy has been sent to His Majesty the King by a number of public bodies and organisations of Bhagalpur and Monghyr praying that the sentence of death passed on Mahendra Choudhry be commuted into one of transportation for life.

Mr. Sri Krishna Sinha, ex-Premier, and Mr. Anugraha Narayan Sinha, ex-Finance Minister, Bihar, have sent a telegram to the Governor to stay the execution of Mahendra Choudhry in view of the mercy petition sent to the King.

Mahendra Choudhry was charged with murder and dacoity during the August 1942 disturbances. The District Judge of Monghyr sentenced him to death. The sentence was upheld by the High Court and the Privy Council. Mercy petitions were then sent to the Governor and the Viceroy, but they were rejected.

Mahatma Gandhi, it is understood, also requested the Viceroy, during his visit to Simla in connection with the Leaders Conference, to commute the sentence of death of Mahendra Choudhry along with those of the Chimur and Ashti prisoners.

Mr. Sri Krishna Sinha has been refused permission by the Bihar Government to interview Suraj Narayan Singh, now detained in the Dharbhanga jail, states a message received here.

POTSDAM "BOYCOTT" DECISION SHAKES UP FRANCO SPAIN

LONDON, August 4 (Reuter):—A major catastrophe threatens Spain unless the Military Directorate takes power without delay, or some drastic political change on similar lines is made. This is the general feeling tonight among Spaniards, who despite the ban on newspapers' publication of Potsdam's "boycott" decision, have learnt of the ostracism of their country through overseas broadcasts.

Reuter's correspondent in Madrid reports that the current opinion is that a major shakeup in the form of the present Government must be made before the month is out. Otherwise the steadily worsening situation will make the outbreaks of violence inevitable.

The 'boycott' decision was probably responsible for the dramatic recall of the Spanish Foreign Minister, Alberty Martin Artjo, for urgent consultations with General Franco. As the Minister was peacefully driving by car to San Sebastian for a summer holiday, messages were flashed on General Franco's order along the route he was taking, instructing him to go at once to General Franco's country residence near Corunna for consultations.

Symptomatic of the present situation in Spain is an unconfirmed report in Madrid that delegates from Republicans, workers organisations and the Spanish underground movement may risk their lives by going in person to General Franco and urging him to abdicate power in favour of a Provisional Republican Government which would immediately hold an election.

A hint that Spanish guerilla activity is still far from a lost cause has been given by the Spanish police who report the discovery of a manifesto warning guerillas to cease their activities "until conditions are more favourable".

As the troubled Spanish situation shows the sign of mounting to a climax, distant Mexico city—the gathering ground of many Spanish Government opponents—came into news with lengthy meeting among prominent exiled Spaniards. This followed a strong call for unity among anti-Franco elements by the Spanish Republican leader and former Prime Minister, Senor Juan Negrin, in Mexico City last Wednesday.

LATEST COMMERCIAL

COPTON OCTOBER

NEW YORK, Aug. 4.

Previous Closing	22.93
Today's Opening	22.87
Difference	—06
Today's Closing	22.82
Difference	—11

LATEST BULLION

BOMBAY, Aug 4.

Silver	Rs.	133	4	0
Gold	Rs.	78	8	0

BEAVERBROOK'S NEW TACTICS

Plans Formation Of Centre Party Of The Discarded And Disgruntled

(From Our Correspondent.)

LONDON, August 4.

Lord Beaverbrook is trying now to justify his own policies. He and Mr. Brenden Bracken have already caused trouble in the Conservative Central Office. Lord Beaverbrook's stooges want to rub out the name "Conservative" for ever and adopt the term 'National" or "Progressive".

It is rumoured that Lord Beaverbrook is shortly forming a Centre Party with Liberals and Liberal Nationals and Independents and eventually disheartened or fearful Labourites who might break away from "Wilder Men" of the Party. But some Conseratives—particularly bright young lads—want Lord Beaverbrook to be officially disowned by the Party. They fear that soon Lord Beaverbrook will be praising some Labour Ministers, notably Mr. Morrison. They say that Lord Beaverbrook thus hopes to widen the breach between Mr. Morrison and Mr. Bevin which the Conservatives should ultimately use as a potential wedge in defeating Labour.

As for Mr. Churchill one report is that he just had a private dinner with Mr. Eden at which I believe, he was told that it would be unwise to continue his Gestapo speeches. As one observer said: "If Mr. Churchill starts sailing into the Labour Party now, he will only consolidate it. Mr. Eden's idea is for Mr. Churchill to sit back and wait, and attack only on the most favourable wicket".

****

Henderson For India Office

LONDON, August 4. (Reuter): Mr. Arthur Henderson is appointed Under-Secretary of State for India and Burma in the latest list of Government appointments announced to-day. Earl Listowel is appointed Postmaster-General.

The following further appointments have been announced:—

Mr. Arthur Creech Jones has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for Colonies.

Mr. John Parker has been appointed Under-Secretary of State for the Dominions.

Former naval stoker W. J. Edwards has been appointed Civil Lord of the Admiralty.

Prime Minister Attlee's new Cabinet will have 20 members, compared with 16 in Mr. Churchill's "Caretaker" Government and the much smaller "War Cabinets" throughout the war.

New Secretary At His Desk

LONDON, August 4. (Reuter): Mr. Pethick-Lawrence, Secretary of State for India in Britain's new Labour Government, arrived at the India Office, London, at an early hour this morning and plunged straight into work, cables Fraser Wighton, Reuter's political correspondent.

By lunch time he had already done a full morning's business.

It was expected that the new Secretary of State would take much of the week-end work home with him to his country house near the village of Abinger in Surrey.

LATEST NEWS

DOGGED JAP RESISTANCE

S.E.A.C. HEADQUARTERS, Aug. 4 (API): Dogged defence from Japanese isolated from their strongpoints in villages in the Pegu hills breakout front is still being encountered, though elsewhere hundreds are being picked off as they desperately attempt to reach the safety of the Shan hills in the Eastern Burma, writes Michel MacDonaugh, 'Associated Press of India' war correspondent.

In spite of concentrated artillery, air and infantry attacks, allied patrols have been unable to enter one village 25 miles north-east of Pegu on the main Rangoon-Mandalay railway.

NEW WOMEN M. P.'S

THEY ARE ALL LABOUR

Thumb-Nail Sketches

LONDON, July 31

There were 14 women in the last Parliament and in this one there are a couple of dozen. Not much of an increase perhaps, but the swing to the Left in women's representation is as marked as that of the General Election, commen:s a writer in the "Daily Herald."

Eight of the 14 last time were Tories. Two of them (Lady Astor and Mrs. Beatrice Wright) retired. Five of the others were knocked out. The only one to retain her seat was Lady Davidson at Lemel Hempstead.

All Labour women M.P.'s, except Mrs. Agnes Hardie who has retired, fought victorious defensive actions: Miss Ellen Wilkinson, Dr. Edith Summerskill and Mrs. Jennie Adamson. Lady Megan Lloyd George remained as a Liberal and the fate of Miss Eleanor Rathbone as a University member has still to be announced. The new women M.P.'s are all Labour.

* * *

One of the youngest of them is Miss Alice Bacon. She is a cheery-faced school teacher of Normanton (Yorks). She is in her early thirties and won a seat on the Labour Party National Executive just after her thirtieth birthday. Daughter of a former colliery check-weighman, she is an effective speaker and has plied a great deal of political experience into her young life. She joined the Socialist Party at the age of sixteen. She has travelled a good deal in attending conferences abroad. She combines a vivacious manner with a deep and unmistakable sincerity.

Mrs. Barbara Ayrton Gould, who should have been in Parliament long ago, has pulled it off at last. This is the seventh fight she has had and once (after several recounts) she was a loser by only four votes. She is the widow of Gerald Gould, poet and author, and mother of one of our most brilliant young artists. A forceful and eloquent speaker, she has had long service on the Labour Party Executive and was the Party's chairman in the fateful year when Neville Chamberlain fell and Labour entered the Government. She is an expert on matters like housing, welfare and nutrition. A woman of strong views with a forthright way of expressing them, she will attract much attention in the Commons.

Miss Jennie Lee who has been there before, both as M.P. and journalist, is another one likely to electrify Parliamentary debates. She is the wife of Mr. Aneurin Bevan and like her husband has occasionally got into Party trouble for a spot of rebelliousness. To have these two going on the same day will be interesting. Black-haired, attractive and utterly fearless, Jennie, a miner's daughter, first became an M.P. at the age of twenty-four. She has travelled widely and is an M.A. and LL.B. of the Edinburgh University.

* * *

Mrs. Freda Corbet will add greatly to the strength of the Labour team. A small and vivacious woman who is a B.A. of the London University and a barrister, she is 44 years old and won her way upwards from an elementary school. She has great experience of local government and has done a grand service on the L.C.C. A great little propagandist who now sees her dream of Labour majority come true.

Down from Duddeston comes Councillor Mrs. E. A. Wills who has played a remarkable part in the Midlands fight. She too has graduated in the school of local government and has constructive and far-seeing views on the question of housing.

For years Mrs. Lucy Middleton, wife of "Jim" Middleton who was for so long Secretary of the Labour Party, has been banging away at the Tory gates of the Sutton division of Plymouth. Now she has battered them down. Somerset born, she travelled much after a spell at the Bristol University. She first attacked the Sutton division as far back as 1936. A fluent speaker who emphasises the ethical side of Socialism.

Lady Noel Buxton is one who returns to familiar scenes. She won North Norfolk for Labour in 1930, but was defeated in 1941. She was educated at St. James's, West Malvern, and Westfield College, University of London. A woman of gracious charm, with an intense interest in social questions. As the mother of three sons and three daughters, she once said in a speech: "There is a very definite connection between empty larders and empty cradles."

Watch Mrs. Braddock. A big woman who is capable of playing merry hell at any moment, if she is moved by injustice. There was a time when, as a Labour member of the Liverpool City Council, she was "named" by the Lord Mayor and was escorted from the Council chamber by two policemen. Mrs. Braddock does not understand what mincing words mean but she has just carved up one of the most Tory divisions in the country.

Mrs. Janley has spent several of the war years out after profiteers. She is a well-known co-operative guildswoman, has had much experience on the L.C.C. and is especially interested in education, maternity welfare and the general protection of the housewife. Proud to be a working man's wife, she was one of the first batch of women J.P.'s to be appointed in 1921 and it was in 1940 when she was appointed on the London Price Regulation Committee that she got on the track of price racketeers.

Mrs. Leah Manning is another one to return to the scene. One-time president of the National Union of Teachers, she won an East Islington by-election in 1931 beating (among others) Miss Thelma Cazalet who, as Mrs. Cazalet Keir, was beaten by somebody else in this year's General Election. Like many others, Mrs. Manning was beaten in the General Election which followed soon afterwards. Now she is back again and certainly she is a personality who comes in the list of fighters.

Youngest of the lot is Mrs. Barbara Castle who as Miss Barbara Betts has often rattled up the London Labour Party Conferences. Chestnut-haired and only 33-years-old, she has for several years been one of the most challenging members of the St. Pancras Council. With a complete mastery of the subjects on which she speaks, she never uses a note and she has a remarkably effective platform manner. She is another who will liven up the new Parliament.

Among the rest of the "new girls" are Mrs. Mabel Ridealgh, one of the Co-operative women leaders, Mrs. Wallhead Nichol; Mrs. Jean Mann (who will "give them the works" on housing) and two more Scotswomen—Mrs. Clarence M. Shaw and Mrs. Margaret Herbison—one from Kilmarnock and the other from Lanarkshire.

Only a couple of dozen. But what a couple of dozen!

BRITISH DEMOCRACY FACING GIANT TEST

Thoughts On New Parliament

(By MICHAEL FOOT M. P.)

LONDON, August 3.

When the leaders of the Russian Revolution first found themselves sitting at the Kremlin, they could not refrain from a brief reflection on the startling changes wrought by history. "We saw the surroundings", they said, "out of the corner of our eyes and said in imagination to the cupids and Psyches in a tone, at once ironical and encouraging: 'You did not expect us? Can't be helped! Get used to us now'."

This week, a similar scene was enacted in the British House of Commons. The rafters resounded to the tune of the Red Flag for a few seconds and it seemed that any moment they might crack.

A minute later, we were back in some forgotten century. The officials of the House went on with the ceremony. The black rod appeared to summon the Clerk and the Commons to the House of Lords.

No trace of any incident remained, except for a broad grin on the face of the policeman. The policeman appeared to understand better than some momentarily bewildered members that the occasion was historic.

Never before had a mojority of members of the House of Commons been elected to execute so far-reaching a programme of economic changes. Never did political democracy confront so giant a test.

PAST INDIFFERENCE

Before the Labour movement came into being, neither of the then great parties (Tories and Liberals) in the State regarded the economy of the nation as a fitting subject for Parliamentary review. Fierce political battles were fought, but they ranged only around the periphery of the arena where the main battle has now to be fought.

The condition of the people of those times was far worse than it is today, yet even the greatest hearted among the statesmen were often blind and deaf to the agony in their midst. Gladstone, for instance, could work himself to noblest fury about the sufferings of Ireland: he had scarcely the eye for the slums of London and of industrial areas in the North.

So indifferent was Parliament that there were many on the Left, who condemned Parliament itself. They could not believe that this institution, with its aristocratic lineage and lordly disdain for the real problems of the people, would ever be transformed into a decisive instrument for their welfare. They could see no hope but in a huge convulsion.

FAITH IN POLITICAL DEMOCRACY

Yet, the English Left could never be persuaded, like some of their Continental counterparts, to abandon all faith in political democracy.

The Chartists were concerned about economic wrongs: but their remedy was political. a franchise which would make Parliament act in the name of all people.

The founders of the Labour Party had to argue long with those who regarded a change secured by a Parliamentary majority as a vain and idle hope.

Later events seemed to justify that suspicion. Time and again on the Continent, political democracy was destroyed before it could win the transfer of economic power. Property was too strong, too subtle and too unscrupulous, and the champions of Socialist Democracy were too timid, too inhibited and too weak.

In the past twenty years, Parliamentary institutions in Europe have gone down before reeling blows and it is too early yet to say if they have anywhere been reborn on an assured foundation.

A great question remains: can political democracy accomplish the changes in order to make a much more just and equal society?

The answer of the Tories is that the changes should never have been attempted. They would stultify political democracy rather than let it operate. Their only philosophy for confronting the challenge of the present age was a series of hand-to-mouth subterfuges for beguiling the people into voting for their enemies. The trick had worked so often that they believed it could not fail in the latest election and Mr. Churchill travelled off to Potsdam, prophesying a Tory majority of 100.

THE OPPORTUNITY

Now, for the first time in the great industrial State of Britain, power is granted by the electorate to embark on the task of achieving Socialism by full Parliamentary and democratic means.

A great exertion is to be attempted in a country where respect for Parliamentary institutions is strongest, and recognition of the rights of the individual is most deeply embedded.

The men who lead the Labour movement honour these institutions and rights, but, they know, unlike their opponents, that they have been exalted into power which cannot be sustained if political democracy shuns its destiny and rejects the great planning measures which alone can bring order from chaos.

This towering fact makes the recent election and the present Parliament unlike any of its predecessors. This fact makes Britain today a commanding leader in the world of nations.

The whole society collapsed on July 5, a society on which rich men and wealthy corporations had thought they could seduce everything, including political democracy itself, to its will. Our business is to convey this society to its burial.

The chance of achieving this great advance for all mankind has come in circumstances very different from those foreseen.

GREAT ADVENTURE

Capital's instinct would be to strike back at once, but its hands are tied. Money cannot be taken from the country by the patriotic gentlemen who would not wish to accept the dictates of the British electorate. The stock market and capitalist investment no longer rule the economy of the nation. The armed forces of the Crown, once regarded by the Tories as a repository of their strength, are manned by millions overflowing with goodwill towards the new Government.

These are immense advantages. The same war which has struck so many weapons from the hands of our enemies, has left a waste of desolation and disorganisation unparalleled in modern times. Cities have been broken, families scattered and a continent is starving on our doorstep.

Such conditions must limit the desire for early triumphs. The triumphs will come, some sooner and some later, and we will need patience and endurance, but we are on our way.

A great adventure has begun.

After all the pains and horrors of this century and the inhuman wretchedness and degradation that has come in their train, has arisen a social democracy—a creed which asserts that free men can live in peace, without privilege and wealth flaunting airs in the face of the abject and the poor.

It was worth singing the Red Flag in common. Quiver as they may, those old rafters must get used to us now.

(COPYRIGHT)

PLOT TO SMUGGLE ARMS TO LAVAL & OTHERS FOILED

Loyal Warder Frustrates Plan: Another Implicated In Affair Disappearing

PARIS, August 3, (Reuter): A plot to smuggle arms into Fresnes, prison, where Laval and other major French collaborators and Alleged traiters are awaiting their trial has been discovered and a small number of revolvers seized as they were about to be delivered to four political prisoners.

A prison warder, who is alleged to have been implicated in the affair, has disappeared.

Four political prisoners who are said to have negotiated for arms have been put in a special cell.

The plot was foiled by a loyal warder who pretended to act as an intermediary.

APPOINTMENT OF PETHICK LAWRENCE

LONDON, August 4, (Reuter): British political quarters describe the appointment of Mr. F. W. Pethick-Lawrence as the Secretary of State for India as rightful acknowledgement of Labour Elder statesman's life-long interest in Indian nationalist aspirations, radios, E. Fraser Wighton, Reuter's political correspondent.

The appointment has, however, caused suprise on account of wide disposition a few days ago to believe that the India portfolio would go to Lord Listowel the only Labour former Government member, who as Mr. L. S. Amery's juniour Minister, had had immediate and close association with most recent developments in the Indian situation including Lord Wavell's visit to England and the conversations leading up to the Simla conference.

AILING WOMAN

RAJO PILLS (Extra)

REMOVES IRREGULARITY

Price Rs. 10-10-0. V. P. P. one Rupee Extra

ENA AGENCY,

41, opp. Prathana Samaj Girgaon, BOMBAY 4

T. No. 22550

SISTERS! DELAYED?

Don't worry! Take "KUMARI" (Tabs.) to set right your irregularities and prevent future troubles! Speedy and harmless!! Thousands satisfied!!! Price Rs. 3/- For obstinate cases—Rs. 5/- (V. P. As. 12 extra).

MRS P. DEVEE, F. D. S., (B. W.),

Tollygunge : : Calcutta : :

new Biscuits

B.P.

BISCUITS TO YOUR TASTE

Let your family and friends enjoy the richness of B. P. Vita Biscuits. They are always crisp and appetising.

B. P. BISCUIT FACTORY KARACHI

MENSO

MENSO GOVT REGD.

Harmless surest remedy for irregularity of any cause use not in pregnancy causes miscarriage. LIBERTY best birth control each Rs 2. CATARACTO without operation. cures cataract All eye-diseases—Rs. 2 Dr. C Bhattacharjee 120, Ashutosh Mukerjee Road Calcutta. Popular Pharmacy, Bomi Pharmacy, Bombay.

CITY AND SUBURBS

To-day

Hindu : Ashad Vad 12, 2001
Muslim : Sabban 26, 1364
Parsi : Aspandarmad 6, 1314
Sunrise 7-16 a.m., Sunset 8-12 p m.
Hightide : 11-32, 23-09
Lowtide : 4-36, 17-40

To-day's Engagements

SOUTH INDIAN ASSOCIATION: Public reception to Dr. Rm. Alagappa Chettiyar today at 6 p.m. at the South Indian Education Society's School Hall, Brahminwada Road, Matunga.

BOMBAY DISTRICT MUSLIM STUDENTS' FEDERATION: Annual General Meeting and Elections of the Federation will be held today in Begmohammed Baug at 10-30 a.m.

LABOUR RALLY: A workers' rally will be held under the auspices of Bombay Girni Kamgar Union, Bombay Communist Party, B. B. & C. I. Railwaymen's Union, Iron and Steel Workers' Union and other organisations to-day (Sunday) at Kamgar Maidan, Parel at 7 p.m. Mr. S. S. Mirajkar, Vice-President of the A. I. T. U. C. will preside. Mr. N. M. Joshi, General Secretary, A. I. T. U. C., Mr. B. T. Ranadive and Mohmad Shahid will speak.

CHARITY PERFORMANCE: In aid of the Students' Literary and Scientific Society's Girls' Schools, the Lalitkala Dramatic Company will stage in charity the drama entitled "Hach Mulacha Bap" at the Baliwala Grand Theatre, today at 9 a.m. (S.T.). The Hon'ble Mr. Justice P. B. Gajendragadkar has kindly consented to preside.

HINDI SAHITYA SAMMELAN: Bombay Provincial Hindi Sahitya Sammelan will hold its general elections today at 4 p.m. in the Bhartiya Vidya Bhawan.

D. G. T. HIGH SCHOOL OLD STUDENTS' ASSOCIATION: Social Gathering of All the old students of the School will be held in the School Building at 4-30 p.m. today.

LATE MR. MAVJIBHAI: Under the auspices of Upnagar Seva Mandal and Suburban District Congress Committee, a condolence meeting in honour of late Mavjibhai Dharmsi Ved will be held today at 4 p.m. at Gandhi Chowk, Vile-Parle (West), Mr. B. G Kher will preside.

RAMDAS ANANDASHRAM: To-day (Sunday) in the premises of the Bombay Spiritual Centre, 2 Laburnum Road, Gamdevi, there will be the monthly meeting of the Bombay branch of Ramdas Anandashram, Kanhangad and a Kirthan by H.B.P.K.M. Parulekar Buwa at 5 p.m.

BOMBAY ASTROLOGICAL SOCIETY: A meeting of the Bombay Astrological Society will be held today at 5-0 p.m. (New S.T.) at Bharatiya Vidya Bhavan, 33-35 Harvey Road Chowpaty, when Shriyut Bhragu Shastri will deliver a lecture on "Prediction."

KANARA SARASWAT ASSOCIATION: Lecture by Prof. Parekh of Rula College on "Education for Democracy" today at 6-30 p.m. in the Shrimat Anandashram Hall, Tardeo.

FRIENDS OF THE SOVIET UNION: Mr. Mohan Kumarmangalam will speak on "San Francisco and Soviet Union" at Poddar Commerce College, Matunga today at 6-30 p.m. Mr Srinivas Iyer Principal, South Indian Education Society High School, will preside.

"MUSLIM TIMES", BOMBAY'S NEW DAILY

"The Muslim Times", a Gujarati evening daily newspaper will be published in Bombay from August 9. The paper will support the Muslim League policy and will be under the editorship of Mr. Sadique.

GOAN YOUTH LEAGUE: Cultural programme at 6 p.m. today at the Wagle Memorial Hall, Kandewadi.

CONDOLENCE FOR LATE MAVJIBHAI VED

Upanagar Seva Mandal and Bombay Suburban District Congress Committee condolence meeting today at 4 p.m. in the school premises, Gandhi Chowk, West, Vile Parle, in remembrance of Syt. Mavjibhai Ved. Mr. B. G. Kher will preside.

RESTAURANT OWNER ARRESTED AND BAILED OUT

Sohrab Khudadad Irani and his servant Munjnath Subraya were arrested for a breach of the Abkari Act following a raid by the police on the former's restaurant at Shankar Shet Road, on Thursday night.

The police alleged that the accused sold liquor without a licence. The raid resulted in the confiscation by the police of 11 bottles of rum, gin and whiskey from the premises.

The suspects were enlarged on bail at the Girgaum Court, on Saturday.

SANGEET VIDNYAN MANDAL

A concert of purely classical music by Ustad Faiz Khan at Laxmi Baug on Sunday 5th August at 8-30 p. m.

D. I. R. TELLS ON STOCK EXCHANGE

Shroff Reviews Trends During *Past Year*

Presiding over the annual general meeting of the Native Share and Stock Brokers' Association on Saturday, Mr. K. R. P. Shroff, the President of the Association, reviewed the trends on the Stock Exchange during the year 1944 and strongly criticized Defence of India Rule 94-C.

Mr. Shroff said that almost for the first time since 1941 the upward flight of prices of Securities levelled off to find its centre round a new norm. The key-note of market-trading during the year was as in the subsequent period "war as usual." The fact that the year 1944 did not provide a point of departure but served to assert more strongly the existing tendencies was nowhere more evident than in the money and gilt-edged markets, which Government continued to dominate. Both these markets showed excellent strength. Banking shares and fixed-yield industrials also shared the prosperity of the gilt-edged section. In industry also the results were generally satisfactory.

D.I.R. TELLS

Proceeding Mr. Shroff referred to the cumulative disadvantages of the Defence of India Rule 94-C. Their administrative difficulties were multiplied. More serious was the development of "grey" markets that sprang into being and thrived in the streets outside the Stock Exchange price manoeuvring and manipuation were in the ascendant and over and over again 'bona fide' sellers were handicapped and short sellers were penalised for performing their normal function. The Stock Exchange authorities were bound hand and foot by the Defence of India Rule 94-C which made control in the highest degree difficult, and it was no exaggeration to say that whatever means were devised for the restoration of more stable and healthy tradings was possible not because of but in spite of the Defence of India Rule 94-C.

The annual report of the Governing Body of the Association was adopted unanimously by the meeting.

Nehru Week

Acharya Kripalani's Message

Kripalani's message to the Bombay Students' Union (A.I.S.C.)

"The activities connected with the Jawaharlal week need no recommendation from me. I am sure the citizens of Bombay will make a success.

Mr. Shanti Shah, the General Secretary of the Bombay Students' Union (affiliated to A.I.S.C.), writes:

"The Bombay Students' Union (A.I.S.C.) are celebrating Nehru Week from 2nd to 9th August. The cause so great as that of Kamala Hospital built in the memory of Kamala Nehru, the spirit of Indian womanhood is the cause of an average Indian. Our memories become fresh of the sacrifices and the services of the Nehru family when we look to the great monument—Kamala Hospital. Such a public institution which is a symbol of the greatest sacrifices must have inexhaustible funds that would help in serving the diseased and the weak. Maulana Sahib and Gandhiji have already issued appeals for contribution to the Nehru Purse. Our president, Shri Ram Sumer Shukla, says: "Give—till it hurts. We from the students' Congress desire to collect Rs. 10,000 within the week. I appeal to the generous public of the city to contribute and keep the memories of Kamala fresh for times to come.

Student workers will move round the city with donation books and collect donations. On 9th Aug there will be box collection throughout the city.

K. E. M. Hospital Workers Want 2 Dismissed Ward Boys Reinstated

Serious trouble is reported to be brewing in the K.E.M. Hospital over the question of the dismissal of two ward boys in the school boy tragedy case.

It is contended that the dismissal of the two boys, when doctors and nurses are responsible for the management and orders, is arbitrary and the boys are absolutely innocent.

This contention is made by the workers in the condemnation of the steps contemplated by the Municipal Commissioner. The workers are reported to have tried all possible ways to persuade the authorities to get the boys reinstated, but to no effect.

A Committee of Action has been appointed by the workers of the K.E.M. Hospital to get their grievance redressed. The workers have forwarded an appeal to the public not to hold them responsible for the inconvenience thus caused by the action contemplated by the workers to get their legitimate grievance redressed.

"Every Human being is born free, but always found in Chains....."

WHY?

The Possible Answer

Will Be Found In

PRAFULA'S SOCIAL

BARI-MA

Director: Producer WYNAYAK

NURJAHAN, ISHWARLAL, YAKUB, MEENAXI & SITARA

LAMINGTON

2ND HOUSE-FUL WEEK

Daily: 4, 7, 10; Sat., Sun. 1.

Advance Booking: 10-30 to 12, 4-30 to 6.

MANZOOR Productions Release Through Pearl Pictures.

12th GRAND WEEK

NAVIN'S

Spectacular Masterpiece

BHARATHARI

SURENDRA, MUMTAZ SHANTI, AND AROON

Director: CHATURBHUJ DOSHI

ROYAL OPERA HOUSE

Daily: 4, 7 & 10 p.m. : Sun. Matinee 1-15

Advance Booking: 9-30 to 12-30 & 3 to 6-30.

AJIT Release

OPENING TODAY AT 1-30 P. M.

Daily: 4, 7 & 10. Sun. & Holi. Mat. at 1-30 p.m.

One who loves is great!

But one who loves 'love' is immortal!

The soul-stirring story of a lover who loved to love.

SHALIMAR PICTURES'

Mun ki Jeet

Produced & Directed by W. Z. AHMED.

Songs: JOSH-MALIHABADI Pandit Bharat Vyas

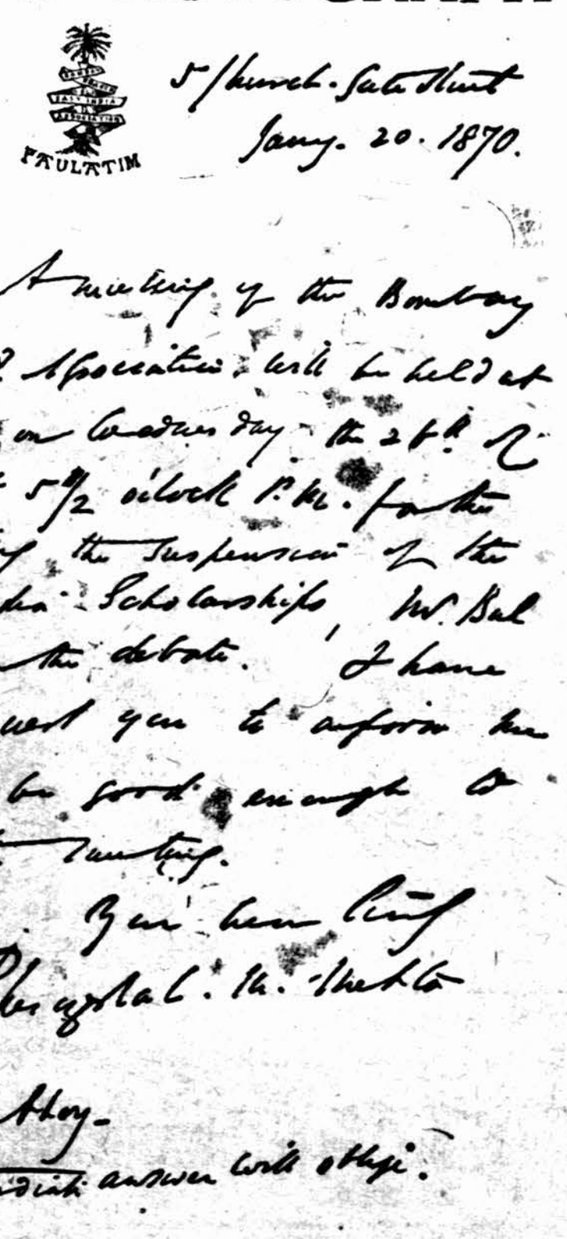
Starring: NEENA, SHYAM PRAKASH TIWARI & others.

A SUNRICH RELEASE

FROM TO-DAY AT

KAMAL

SIR PHEROZESHAH MEHTA'S AUTOGRAPH



5 Churchgate Street
January 20. 1870.

My dear Sir,

A meeting of the Bombay Branch of the E. I. Association will be held at the F. C. Institute on Wednesday the 26th Inst. at 5½ o'clock P.M. for the purpose of discussing the Suspension of the Government of India Scholarships, Mr. Bal M. Wagle to open the debate. I have the honor to request you to inform me if you will be good enough to preside at the meeting.

Yours very truly
Pherozeshah M. Mehta

The Hon'ble
Byramjee Jejeebhoy.
P.S. An immediate answer will oblige.

This rare autographed letter of the late Sir Pherozeshah M. Mehta, was written when he was barely twenty-five years old. It was presented to Mr. Jehangir Ruttonji Screwvala for his collection by Mr. J. R. B. Jeejeebhoy. It is written on the letter form of the East India Association, which was the predecessor of the Bombay Presidency Association, founded with the same aims and objects.

It was addressed to the late Hon'ble Byramjee Jeejeebhoy, C.S.I. (1822-1890) who was the gerat grandfather of the present Sir Byramjee Jeejeebhoy and Mr. J. R. B. Jeejeebhoy. This letter seems to be the oldest autographed letter of the late Sir Pherozeshah M. Mehta, known in existence being exactly seventy-five years old.

The following is the text for easy reference

5, Churchgate Street,
January 20, 1870.

My dear Sir,

A meeting of the Bombay Branch of the E. I. Association will be held at the F. C. Institute on Wednesday the 26th of January next at 5 1/2 o'clock p.m. for the purpose of discussing the suspension of the Government of India Scholarships, Mr. Bal M. Wagle to open the debate. I have the honour to request you to inform me if you will be good enough to preside at the meeting.

Yours ever truly,
PHEROZESHAH M. MEHTA.

The Hon'ble
BYRAMJI JEEJEEBHOY—
P.S. An immediate answer will oblige.

BOMBAY CELEBRATES PHIROZESHAH CENTENARY

He Was A Great Patriot And A Great Indian, Says Mayor

Bombay Saturday

The majestic, 45 feet tall statue of the late Sir Phirozeshah Mehta in front of the Corporation building, was swathed in innumerable floral offerings made by more than 70 organisations headed by the Municipal Corporation, on the occasion of the Sir Phirozeshah Mehta centenary celebrations on Saturday.

Hailing him as a great citizen, great Patriot and great Indian, Dr. Alban D'Souza, the Mayor garlanded Sir Phirozeshah's statue while a vast and eager crowd of spectators forty feet down below lifted up their eyes and cheered.

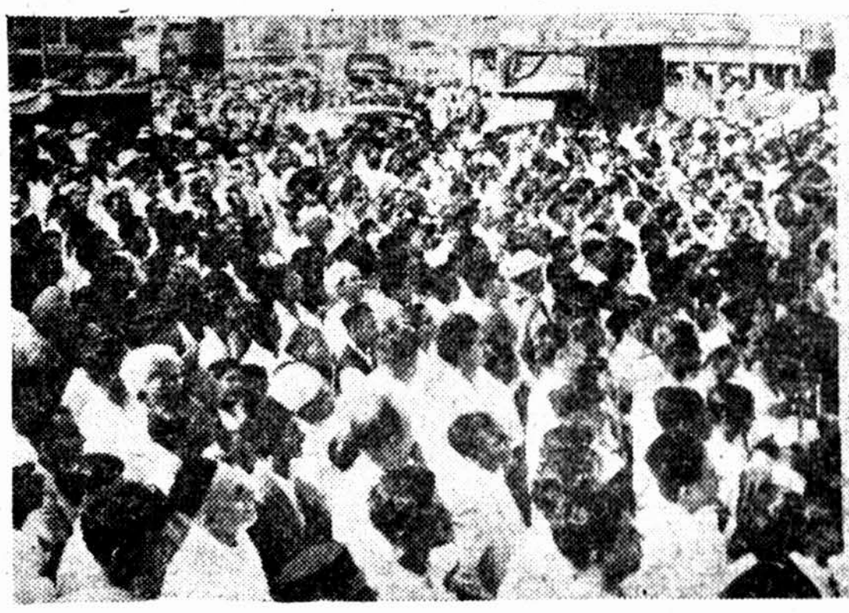
The most touching moment of the day's celebrations was when the 76 year old Lady Phirozeshah Mehta climbed up to the gallery to receive one of the garlands which had been already offered as a homage to her late husband. Earlier she garlanded the statue on behalf of the All Parsi Rashtriya Sabha and made obeisance in front of the statue.

Bombay was en fete for the occasion. Hordes of school children enjoying their holiday provided the first early morning setting to the day's celebrations, the Municipal buildings as well as the Sir Phirozeshah Mehta Road were decked with greens and flowers. A special platform had been erected in front of the statue of Sir Phirozeshah with a long flight of steps leading to the platform. With the steps painted white and green and the balustrade swathed in red and white cloth, the entire set-up offered a pleasant and harmonious picture. The mayor and the Municipal Commissioner in woollen tail coats and vests and Mr. S. K. Patil and Mr. Nagindas T. Master in white Khadi were the first to go up the steps. Speeches were addressed to the audience forty feet below through mikes while photographers were seen clambering over a fire brigade ladder to take snaps of the proceedings.

Mr. S. K. Patil invited the Mayor to garland the statue which, he said, had stood so majestically for the last thirty years. In doing so he said: "We are paying this morning our humble tribute of love and loyalty to the hallowed memory of one who was rightly called the "Uncrowned King" of Bombay and also the "lion" of Bombay, because of his brave lead in everything. He served the city and this country for well nigh half a century with a greatness and distinction rarely achieved. He was a member of the Municipal Corporation for 45 years, four times its elected president, a member of the Imperial Council for many years, one of the founders of the Indian National Congress and its president in 1890 at the Calcutta Sessions. The late Sir Pherozeshah was, indeed the father of Indian nationalism in the sense in which we understand that nationalism to-day."

A COLOSSUS

The Mayor before garlanding the statue said of Sir Phirozeshah Mehta: "In life he worked for the city and built up this corporation, a model for local self-governing institutions in the country. After death he stands here and in the Corporation hall, a colossus, guarding the corporation's rights and privileges and guiding the Corporation's decisions and debates in all matters of civic well being. He is a source of inspiration to this generation and generations to come."



Mr. Alban D'Souza, the Mayor of Bombay garlanding the statue of the late Sir Pherozeshah Mehta on the occasion of the centenary celebration by the City Municipal Corporation on Saturday morning. Right, View of the crowd gathered on the occasion.

PHEROZESHAH MEHTA CENTENARY

"Chronicle" Offers Rs. 2000 For Best Memorial Essays

1. To commemorate the birth centenary of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta the Proprietors of the "Bombay Chronicle" have decided to offer Rs. 1,000/- each to the writers of the best essays on the following two subjects.

2. This competition is open to all (inhabitants of India), irrespective of age, sex or creed.

3. Every essay submitted for this competition must be in English, not exceeding 7,000 words in length.

4. Every competitor shall send two copies of his essay not later than the 1st November 1945. In no circumstances shall this time limit be extended. Every effort shall be made to judge the essays and announce the decision as soon as possible.

5. Together with the copies of the essay, the author must forward a certificate stating that the essay is his or her own 'bona fide' work.

6. No essay shall be signed, or bear in any part any name, mark, or other indications by which its writer can be identified. For purposes of identification, every essay shall be signed by some 'nom-de-plume', or motto. The copy of the essay shall be forwarded to the Editor of the "Bombay Chronicle" in a sealed envelope which shall also contain the writer's name and address and the 'nom-de-plume' or motto (enclosed in another sealed envelope) under which the essay has been submitted.

7. The Editor of the "Bombay Chronicle" shall be the sole judge of the relative merits of the essays submitted in competition; and his award shall be final.

8. The "Bombay Chronicle" will have the copyright in the essay purchased by it for the price of Rs. 1,000/-; and the essay may be published at the discretion of the Editor in the "Bombay Chronicle" (as well as if translated into Gujarati, in the "Bombay Samachar." The translation shall be made at their own cost by the "Bombay Chronicle" Company).

9. The "Bombay Chronicle" also reserves the right to publish any other essays received in this competition, if deemed suitable for that purpose, provided that, in each such case, payment shall be made to the author at such rates as the Proprietors or the "Bombay Chronicle" may decide.

10 The subjects for the competition are: in two classes: civic and political. Subject to the above rules, every competitor is free to write on either, or both, of these subjects:

(1) CIVICS—WHAT MAKES YOUR CITY WORTH LIVING IN AND HOW TO MAKE IT WORTH LIVING IN.

(2) POLITICS—THE COMMUNAL PROBLEM AND ITS SOLUTION.

MRS. NAIDU'S TRIBUTE

My tribute of honour to the illustrious memory of Pherozeshah Mehta. Not the least of his many notable services to India was the founding of the "Bombay Chronicle" which, under its first great editor, Mr. Horniman, became instantly the symbol of the nation's will to freedom.

—SAROJINI NAIDU.—

Pherozeshah Mehta Centenary Meeting

A public meeting will be held on Monday, 6th inst. at 6 p.m. at Sir Cowasji Jehangir Hall

President:—Shri C. Rajagopalachari.

Speakers:—Sir Chimanlal Setalvad Sir H. P. Mody, Sir B. J. Wadia, Mr. B. G. Kher, Mr N. T. Master, Sir Rahimtoola Chinoy, Mr. M. A. Master, Mr. S. A. Brelvi and Mr. Jamnadas Dwarkadas

PHEROZESHAH CENTENARY IN "F" WARD

Under the joint auspices of "F" Ward District Congress Committee, a public meeting will be held to-day at 6-30 p.m. at Palamcot Hall, Parsi Colony, Dadar to celebrate Sir Pherozeshah Mehta Centenary. Sjts. Acharya Kripalani, General Secretary, Indian National Congress, S. K. Patil, Manchershah E. Joshi, Ichpuria, Mithiawala and others will address, Sri. Nagindas T. Master will preside.

GENERAL ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

Provincial Chief Secretaries Summoned To Simla

WAVELL TAKES NEXT STEP

(From Our Correspondent)

LAHORE, August 4: As an outcome of the Governors' Conference last week, a meeting of the Chief Secretaries of all Provinces is being called on August 14 at New Delhi.

This is believed to be Lord Wavell's second step in his attempt to resolve the political deadlock.

ELECTIONS IN NOVEMBER

It is confirmed by earlier reports that elections in the Provinces will be held during November and December. The elections to the Central Legislatures are also foreshadowed although a short session of the Assembly may be held in October.

New Govt. Next Year

It is now obvious that the new Central Government will come into being early next year.

It is understood that an official "communique" regarding the political situation as summed up by Governors' Conference will be issued early next week. Subject to the approval of His Majesty's Government an announcement regarding the Provincial elections will be made on August 6.

The ban on Congress and other organisations will be removed and practical measures concerning Law and Order with special reference to the communal situation will be discussed by the Chief Secretaries' Conference with Sir Richard Tottenham, Secretary, Home Department.

Wavell To Write To Azad

It is understood that Lord Wavell will write to the Congress President Maulana A. K. Azad again and may convey some hopeful message relating to the points raised by the Congress during the Simla Conference.

Benthall To Go On Leave

NEW DELHI, August 4 (A.P.I.): It is learned that the War Transport Member, Government of India Sir Edward Benthall is proceeding to England on a short leave of about two months. It is likely that his portfolio will be transferred during this period to one of the other members of the Executive Council.

EARLY END OF GOVERNORS' RAJ PREDICTED

NAGPUR, August 3 (A.P.I.): End of Section 93 Rule in provinces during this month is forecast by the special correspondent of the "Nagpur Times" at Delhi.

He says that he learnt from a 'most unimpeachable source in Delhi that in the last week of this month when British Cabinet takes full shape Indian leaders including Maulana Abul Kalam Azad and Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru will be flown to England for picking up threads of the Simla conference.

The correspondent adds, "Even if the question of the centre remains unsolved it seems almost certain that Congress will be urged to take responsibility in provinces

MADRAS CONGRESS EX-MINISTER PUTS FORTH SUGGESTION FOR SOLUTION OF DEADLOCK

MADRAS, August 3. (A.P.I.): A novel scheme for constituting five independent states within India as a solution of the present political and economic stalemate in the country was suggested by Mr. S. Ramanathan, former Congress Minister, inaugurating the Madras Economic Association to-day.

Explaining his scheme Mr. Ramanathan stated: The division of India into five regions is not based on any single principle logically carried out, but is a workable compromise between the conflicting claims of various principles clamouring for exclusive recognition. The claims of religion, language and economic regionalism are each conceded, but only in part and with a view not to conflict with other claims.

Under this scheme there will be five independent states in India called north, south, east, west and centre. I use the terminology indicating directions rather than terms like Pakistan, Hindustan or Dravidistan in order not to excite passion which may prevent a consideration of the scheme on its merits. The boundaries will be adjusted so as to provide for every claim based on geography or history.

ANDHRA CIRCULAR WAS UNAUTHORISED

GANDHIJI CLARIFIES POSITION ARISING OUT OF PATTABHI'S STATEMENT

SEWAGRAM, August 4. "I had no opportunity to function in terms of the All-India Congress Committee's resolution of August 8, 1942; the Andhra Circular was, therefore, neither authorised by the Congress nor by me", says Mahatma Gandhi in the course of a statement to the press on the recent references made by Dr. Pattabhi Seetaramayya to the Andhra Circular.

It may be recalled that Dr. Pattabhi Seetaramayya, in a speech at Bezwada recently, took upon himself complete responsibility for the circular but stated that there was nothing secret about it and the instructions contained in them had been framed after discussions with Mahatma Gandhi.

Following is the full text of Mahatma Gandhi's statement: "I have now read a report of Dr. Pattabhi's Telugu speech at Masulipatam and the correct version given by him later. I have also had correspondence with him and I am now able to answer the reporters who taxed me about it the other day.

"I have re-read the relevant portion of my reply to the Government publication called, "Congress Responsibility for the Disturbances 1942-43." I have nothing to amend or correct in my references to the Andhra Circular.

Dr. Pattabhi and other friends and fellow workers did have conversations with me on the topic of the day. I have, naturally, no record of those talks, nor did I authorise publication of the talks.

I have, however, contemporaneous evidence of what I had in mind on August 7, 1942. My draft instructions were circulated among the members of the Congress Working Committee on August 8, 1942.

They were to be considered on August 9, but before they could be considered, the members of the Working Committee and I were arrested. Hence, no authorised instructions were or could be issued.

Those who are curious may read the draft instructions in an Appendix to the second edition of "Gandhiji's Correspondence with the Government Press', Ahmedabad.

I had no opportunity to function in terms of the A.I.C.C. resolution of August 8 and the Andhra Circular was, therefore, neither authorised by the Congress nor by me."—(A.P.I.)

BAD DAY FOR PUNTERS AT POONA

Gwalior And Baroda Draw Blank On Opening Day: Trainer Talib Wins A Double

(From Our Correspondent)

POONA, August 4

Kalavati has paid Rs. 1,416 on opening day.

The attendance at Poona for the very First Day was considerably large but majority of the punters failed to reap much.

In the lowest division of the Elphinstone Plate, the most neglected Kalavati scored in convincing manner and paid for win the sensational dividend of Rs. 1,416.

Besides, Firouze and Prince Buland who won their respective races were also not much fancied and they also returned three figure dividends.

The rest of the winners had fairly large support. Trainer Talib who alone distinguished himself with a double, brought out a big coup through the medium of Arabian Star and Himalaya.

The two big establishments Gwalior and Baroda had blank days.

The treble event pool remained unsolved and, therefore, the accumulated amount, Rs. 20815, has been carried forward to the next meeting.

THE GHORPURI PLATE (Div. II).—Distance 1 Mile.

Mrs. A. L. J. Talib's ARABIAN STAR 8-11 Kheem Singh 1
M/s. Ibrahim & Dossa's COMPETITOR 8-11 Khade 2
Mr F A Banaji's YOUNG KRUSH 9-0 K. Hasan 3
Lt.-Col. Zorawar Singh's DAHMAN YUNUS 9-0 R. Vithal.... 4
Not run: Flying Ace and Quindil Mahmud.
Won by: 2 1/2 lengths; 1 1/2 lengths; 1 1/2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 54 2/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 55. Places Rs. 31, Rs. 21 and Rs. 123
Trainer: Talib.

THE NERAL PLATE. Division III—Distance 5 furlongs.

H H Maharaja of Idar's GOLDEN BOY 8-7 Brace 1
Messrs I A G and M A G Molooobhai's SUPREME COMMAND 8-7 Laloo 2
Mr J A Abdulezer's MARDAN 8-7 Raffaele 3
H H Maharaja of Gwalior's SENAPATI 8-7 Roberts 4
Not run: Rampian.
Won by: 2 lengths, Short head, 2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 4 2/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 47. Places Rs. 20, Rs. 19 and Rs 52.
Trainer. Marrable.

THE GHORPURI PLATE. Division I—Distance 1 mile.

Mr G E Dossa's NOBLE DUKE 9-0 Evans 1
Maharaja of Gwalior's RED BLINKERS 9-4 Roberts 2
Mr Saleh Moosa's TIME STEP 9-4 Hanumansingh 3
Maharaja of Baroda's QUEEN HAMIYAH 9-1 Rook 4
All ran.
Won by: Head, 3 lengths, 1/2 length.
Time: 1 minute 54 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 93. Places Rs. 29, Rs. 17 and Rs. 30.
Trainer Mistry.

THE NERAL PLATE. Division II.—Distance 5 furlongs.

Messrs Hope and Chandulal J Shah's HIMALAYA 8-7 Kheemsingh 1
Nawabzadas of Bhopal's RED PRINCE 8-7 Marrs 2
Mr F H Mehta's CARROTS 8-7 Carr 3
Mr Govindji L. Jobanputra's MAHA BHARAT 8-7 Khade 4
All ran.
Won by: 1/2 length; 2 lengths; 1 1/4 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 4 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 25. Places Rs. 14, Rs. 52 and Rs. 19.
Trainer: Talib.

THE ELPHINSTONE PLATE. Division I—Distance 1 mile

Sir Homi Mehta's NAMASTAY 8-6 Bhoor Singh 1
Mr A Fatah's MAHARUKH 8-0 Mullsingh 2
Mr Chandulal J Shah's SHABNAM 8-4 Dar 3
Mr A J Moshi's MONTGOMERY 8-0 Poshne 4
Not run: Rex.
Won by: 4 lengths, 1 1/2 lengths, 4 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 45 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 32. Places Rs. 16, Rs. 34 and Rs. 23.
Trainer: Dinshaw.

THE ELPHINSTONE PLATE. Division III—Distance 1 mile.

Mr. Aziz Currimbhoy's KALAVATI 8-2 Mull Singh 1
Mr Sion F Nessim's LORD BILL 8-3 Raffaele 2
Mr F H Mehta's DUCKY 8-5 Carr 3
Mr R S Irani's ROSE OF BARODA 9-0 H Singh 4
Not run: Ninotchka, Golden Flame, Comet, Princess of Manjri and Black Princess.
Won by: 2 lengths; Short head; Head.
Time: 1 minute 46 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 1,416. Places Rs. 188, Rs. 38 and 53.
Trainer: A Abbas.

THE NERAL PLATE. Division I.—Distance 5 furlongs.

Capt W D Varenen's BEAU NASH 8-7 Evans 1
H H Maharaja of Baroda's TURF STAR 8-7 Rook 2
Mr M P Jain's MAN SAROVAR 8-7 B McQuade 3
Mr Habib I Rahimtoola's JESTING PILATE 8-7 Carr 4
Not run: Tip Top.
Won by 1 1/2 lengths; 4 lengths; Neck.
Time: 1 minute 4 1/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 21. Places Rs. 15, Rs. 34 and Rs. 65.
Trainer: Buckley.

THE ELPHINSTONE PLATE. Division II—Distance 1 mile.

Mr D K Parker's MAID OF HONOUR 9-2 Raffaele 1
Mr K S Irani's PARWIN 8-4 Carr 2
Maharaja of Gwalior's GENERALISSIMO 8-9 Roberts 3
Mr F H Mehta's KHUDA HAFIZ 9-0 A Thompson 4
Not run: Sunshine Baby.
Won by: 2 1/2 lengths, 2 1/2 lengths, 1/2 lengths.
Time: 1 minute 44 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 26. Places Rs. 17, Rs. 25, and Rs. 20.
Trainer: H Chothani

THE BHOPAL PLATE. Division II—Distance 7 furlongs.

Mr S G Bhopatkar's FIROUZE 8-4 Brace 1
Maharaja of Baroda's SCOTLAND YARD 9-4 Rook 2
Mr D K Parker's PESHAWAR EXPRESS 8-4 Raffaele 3
Messrs Lakhia and Mazumdar's HURRICANE 9-2 Khade 4
Not run: Lydia and Air Ace.
Won by: 1 1/2 lengths; 1/2 length; Neck.
Time: 1 minute 30 3/5 seconds.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 205. Places Rs. 62, Rs. 20 and Rs. 32
Trainer: K J K Irani.

THE BHOPAL PLATE. Division I.—Distance 7 furlongs.

Maharani Chimnabai and Maharaja of Cooch Behar's PRINCE BULAND 8-7 Carr 1
The Maharaja of Parlakimedi's GENERAL MONTGOMERY 9-0 Sibbritt 2
Mr M D Petit's DANDY 8-11 Evans 3
Messrs Pittie and D R D Tata's STAR HUNT 9-4 Burn 4
Not run: Niraly.
Tote paid: Win Rs. 170. Places Rs. 47, Rs. 50 and Rs. 46.
Trainer: J Thompson.
Treble Pool Rs. 20.815 carried over to next meeting.

DR. B. N. DESAI, SPECIALIST
L. M. & S.
formerly of Wadifalia Surat. HYDROCELE
Who *WITHOUT OPERATION*

Cures HYDROCELE at one sitting in 10 minutes. Now permanently in Bombay in Sardar Griha Hotel. Crawford Market. Details with certificates can be had on sending 4 one anna stamps.

OUR TABULATED ADLETS

2 ANNAS PER WORD
MINIMUM RS. 1/8/-
To be paid in advance.

MATRIMONIAL

Wanted a beautiful and educated girl of Gouda Saraswat Brahman community for a writer and journalist of 32. Please write with a recent photo and sufficient details immediately. Write to Box No. 8970, "Bombay Chronicle."

We suggest Princes, I.C.S. and other Officers and pretty rich virgins and widows of all religions, castes and Provinces. Happy Marriage, 7, Beadon Road, Lahore. 3052

Wanted a Lady Partner, with a view to matrimony, for a well established bachelor. Caste no bar. Apply Box No. 9026, "Bombay Chronicle".

SITUATIONS VACANT

Wanted (1) Senior persons with organising ability to take charge at the Head Office to organise departments and sales of any of the following products—sugar and confectionery, pharmaceuticals, paper and stationery, starch and starch products, foreign liquor; and sales assistants and travelling salesmen with experience in any of the above products. (2) Senior people with organising and business ability, having extensive experience of managing factories with headquarters at the factory or at a distance. In both the above cases preference to gentlemen with impressive personality and over six years' experience. Apply stating age, qualifications, experience with salaries drawn against posts held, and minimum salary acceptable, to Karam Chand Thapar and Bros. Ltd., 5, Royal Exchange Place, Calcutta. Last date of receiving applications 19th August, 1945. (4152)

Vacancies exist for Temporary Clerks 'A' Grade in the scale of Rs. 60-3-75 plus 25 per cent increase in pay in lieu of overtime when required to work systematic overtime and dearness allowance as admissible. The posts are temporary and are likely to last for the duration of the war. Applications from those unwilling to be posted outside Bengal or already in the employment of the Defence Services will not be considered. Applications from Govt. servants will be considered only if (a) forwarded through proper channel and (b) the Head of the department concerned is prepared to release the applicant, if selected. Preference will be given to qualified typists. Applications stating age and full details of qualifications and experience should reach the Inspector of Metal & Steel, Ishapore, B. & A. Railway by 13th August, 1945. 4249

Wanted Senior Grade Clerks—Vacancies exist for Senior grade Clerks in the grade of 60—7½—140—10—160 plus 25 per cent increase in pay in lieu of overtime when required to work systematic overtime and dearness allowance as admissible. The post is temporary and is likely to last for the duration of the war. Applications stating age and full details of qualifications and experience should reach the Inspector of Metal & Steel, Ishapore, B. & A. Railway, by 18th August, 1945. Applications from Govt. servants will be considered only if: (a) Forwarded through proper channel, and (b) The Head of the department concerned is prepared to release the applicant, if selected. (4320)

Indian Artists—Wanted 30 ambitious young boys and girls, desirous to start a stage career. For particulars and application forms apply Post Box 115. Lucknow. 9001

MEDICAL ADLETS

Deafness cured Permanently? Guaranteed cure without relapse. Combined treatment Emerald Pills internally, and 'Rapid Aural Drop.' Full course Rs. 27-13. Money refund or permanent Cure. Leucoderma: Permanent Cure Guaranteed. Scientifically admitted "Leucodermine" (regd.) Rs. 25-12. No matter who has failed. Dr. Sherman, Baliabhanga (Faridpur). (8859)

PUBLIC NOTICES

INDIAN POSTS AND TELEGRAPHS DEPARTMENT

VICTORY STAMP COMPETITION

The Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, announces a competition open to British subjects domiciled or serving in India, subjects of Indian States and foreigners actually residing in India, for a design for an Indian "Victory" Postage Stamp.

Prizes of Rs. 1,000/-, Rs. 500/- and Rs. 300/- are offered for the 3 best designs, in order of merit.

2. A copy of the conditions of the Competition, an entry form, and a lithographed copy of a specimen postage stamp design to act as a guide in the matter of boldness and fineness of line, dot and space necessary in the original drawing to ensure satisfactory reproduction when reduced to postage stamp size, may be obtained on application from the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, New Delhi. The application must be enclosed in a cover marked "Victory Stamp Competition" and accompanied by a remittance, by means of Indian Postal Order, of rupees five only, which will not be refunded in any case.

3. Designs not accompanied by the standard entry form supplied by the Director-General, Posts and Telegraphs, will not be considered.

4. The last date for submission of the designs is the 29th September, 1945. (4240)

MEDICAL ADLETS

1000 Diabetes Radically treated per year from 1938 with money back guarantee. Diabetic Clinic Indo-Trading Co., Tiruvarur, Madras. (9031)

EDUCATIONAL

Get London American degrees Education Law, Engineering Philosophy. Fee reasonable. Bazmeatibba Reg. Delhi. 8879

Learn Dentistry within short period. Apply prospectus: Dental Training Institute, Garediakuva, Rajkot. (4292)

MISCELLANEOUS ADLETS

Advance essential, Sweetest Mango Fruits 100, Rs. 16/-; Mango, Lichi, Seedless Guava grafts dozen Rs. 24/-; Kaghzilime Rs. 12/-; Sirkari Bagh, Darbhanga. 8419

Associate your name in our "Buying & Selling" scheme. A genuinely co-operative offer, beneficial to Buyers and Sellers alike. Write for terms to Messrs. W. Duff & Co., 71, Clive St., Calcutta. (9011)

Undertake inspection of goods bought or sold in Calcutta, on behalf of registered constituents, on reasonable terms. Write to Messrs. W. Duff & Co., 71, Clive St., Calcutta, for particulars. (9011)

Wanted to purchase one complete preparation of Cotton Spinning Plant including Blowing Room and Doubling Frames, either new or good 2nd hand. Full particulars to: The Reliance Trading Co., 43, Clive St., Calcutta. (4319)

MISCELLANEOUS FOR SALE

A lot of one hundred 4¼" mouth Fifty 3½" mouth parallel jaw bench vices is on clearance sale. Rare opportunity for stockists rates on application. Correspond with Saraswati Industries Ltd., Badamibagh Lahore. (9000)

BUSINESS OFFERS

Stockists of electrical goods please ask for free samples of our electric plug shoe. Rates wonderfully cheap. Machinery Marketing Co., Khanna Buildings, McLeod Road, Lahore. (8999)

AGENTS WANTED

House to House Canvassing Agents on attractive commission for guaranteed and fast selling modern jewelleries. Write to Box No. 9007, "Bombay Chronicle."

PROPERTIES FOR SALE

Property for Sale, situated on Ganeshkhind Road, Poona, with two bungalows, outhouses, etc. Electric fitting and water connection complete For particulars apply R. G. Phatak, 428, Narayan, Poona No. 2. (8985)

Worth Street Withdrawn

NEW YORK, August 3, (U. P. A.): Traders on the Worth Street Cloth Market continued withdrawn awaiting ceilings revisions.

NEW YORK COTTON.

New York, August 3.

October	22.93+07
October highest (3 p.m.)	22.93+07
October lowest (10 a.m.)	22.85—01
December	24.95+05
January	22.94+07
March	22.95+05
May	22.93+07
July	22.62+03
October	22.00+07
Middling Spot	23.36+06

NEW ORLEANS COTTON.

October	22.92+05
December	22.95+05
March	22.95+03
May	22.91+04
July	22.65+05
Middling Spot	22.45+05

NEW YORK COTTON, NOON CALL.

October	22.87
December	22.89
March	22.88

3rd WEEK

BOMBAY TALKIES'

PRATIMA

Starring: SWARNALATA, DILEEP KUMAR, SHAHNAWAZ JYOTI, P. F. PITHAWALA & MUMTAZ ALI

Produced by: M. I. DHARAMSEY

Directed by: JAIRAJ

Lyrics: NARENDRA

MAJESTIC

Daily: 4, 7 & 10 p. m. Matinee on Sat., Sun. & Holidays at 1 p. m.

Advance Booking 10 a. m. to 12 noon, 4 to 6 p. m.

CITY MARKETS

GOLD & SILVER

BOMBAY, August 4.

The local Bullion Market opened very steady but declined on heavy selling by professional operators. At the opening forward Silver was quoted at Rs. 137/4 and improved to Rs. 137/6 but under heavy selling declined to Rs. 136/3 and steadied at Rs. 136/6. Ready Silver was quoted at Rs. 136/8. Forward Gold opened at Rs. 78/6 and improved to Rs. 78/8 but quietened at Rs. 78/5/6 and steadied at Rs. 78/6. Ready Gold was placed at Rs. 78/7. Sovereign buyers at Rs. 53/11 and sellers at Rs. 53/13.

BOMBAY COTTON

BOMBAY, August 4.

The local Cotton Market opened today at Rs. 426/8 for September delivery and improved to Rs. 428/12 on moderate buying and short covering. Tone was steady but the turnover was moderate

September advanced to Rs. 429/8 and reaced to Rs. 428 on scattered realising. The market closed at 3 p.m. as under:—

I.C.C. September 428 0 0

HIGH & LOW COTTON PRICES.

	Hi.	Lo.	Close.
I.C.C. September	431	425	426

Cotton Parity

Indian Cotton September Contract is 648 cent points below New York October at Exchange rate 331.

Hapur Quotations

HAPUR, Aug. 4.

Wheat 10/4 Gram 8/14 Peas 8 Old 6/14 Arhar 7/6 Old 7 Stock Wheat 49 Gram Nil Peas 99 Arhar 85 Gur 10/5 Jaggery Powder 11/8 Mustardseed 11 Oil 35 Oats 9 Bejhar 8/14 Urad 15/9 Moong 11/6 Gwar 8/14 Mah 7/4/3 Bardana 55/4 to 56/8 Asuj 54/10 Silver 137/13 steady on heavy speculative purchases Gold 78/12.

LONDON STOCK EXCHANGE.

London, August 3.

	£
Rupee Paper 3.1/2 p.c.	73.1/4
Consols 2.1/2 p.c.	84.1/8
Conversion Loan 3.1/2 p.c. 1961	106.5/8
War Loan 3.1/2 p.c.	104.1/4
Funding Loan 4 p.c. 1960/90	114.3/16
Victory Bonds 4 p.c.	113.1/8
Chartered Bank of I. A. and China	10-7/8
Hongkong and Shanghai Bank (London Reg.)	87.1/2
National Bank of India	41-1/4

STATESMANSHIP & POLITICS FULLY PRACTISED In MEHBOOB'S HISTORICAL PICTURE

HUMAYUN

Director: Producer MEHBOOB

ASHOK KUMAR, VEENA & NARGIS.

12th GREAT WEEK

Daily: 4, 7, 10

Sunday: 1-15

Reservation: 10 to 12; 4 to 6

IMPERIAL

DIAMOND SELECT Release

7th WEEK OF FAME

—A MIRROR OF THE ANCIENT GLORIES OF INDIA

—True in its culture, tradition Art, Literature & music.

PRAKASH PICTURES'

Vikramaditya

Direction: VIJAY BHATT Art: KANU DESAI

Starring: PRITHVIRAJ, PREM ADIB, PENDHARKAR, RANJANA

Advance Booking: 9 to 11. 5 to 6 & 7-15 to 8-15 Plans open

SUPER

Mat. at 1 p. m. on Fri., Sat., Sun.

Daily: 4, 7 & 10 p. m.

(An Evergreen Release)

For Perfect Beauty Use Calchemico's

'TUHINA'

(The Beauty Milk)

Softens and Whitens the skin. Perfectly harmless to the tenderest skin.

THE CALCUTTA CHEMICAL CO., LTD.

Bombay Office Princess Street

Sports Jottings From Here And There

By J. C. MAITRA

It is, indeed, very gratifying to learn that the Board of Control for Cricket in India has accorded its sanction to the zonal tournament proposed by the Cricket Club of India. Let us hope that the C.C.I. will now get a move on and see that this long-awaited competition is inaugurated next cold weather. It would have been much better if they had agreed to the proposed division of the present four zones into five. That is the most convenient and practical way of conducting the Ranji Trophy. And it would also make the contests keener and more interesting. I hope all the associations would give greater thought to this question and see that this is done at least next year.

COMMUNAL TOURNAMENT AT LAHORE?

While the progressive clements in Bombay are thinking in terms on non-communal sport, Lahore is planning to launch a cricket competition on communal basis. The Punjab has always been very backward on the path of nationalism. It is no wonder, therefore, that they would try to introduce the virus of communalism even in the field of sport. It is upto the younger generation to rise in revolt against this obnoxious step. It may be that the communal tournament would bring in more money to the coffers of the provincial association. But that should not induce the sportsmen of the Punjab to sacrifice the spirit of nationalism and bring in religious rivalry on the field of sport. They should think out healthier method for popularising the game. Why not start a League between the associations within the North zone itself? It should be very interesting.

GAMA'S WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP.

Here is a letter from Rashid Anwar, world Olympic (Berlin 1936) wrestler, which speaks for itself. It would, however, be interesting to hear from him when Gama won his World Championship and where? Is there any such tournament held anywhere periodically or occasionally like the boxing competitions? When did Gama take part in it last and how many times has he done so upto now? If there is no such tournament or competition anywhere how can he claim the world title. And if there is and he has not competed in it, what right has he to it now? Is Gama recognised as the World Champion anywhere outside this country? In that case, why is he not invited or challenged by the champions of other countries?

Either they must retire or fight even with their own desciples, if nobody else come along, our admiration for past achievements must not take us to the absurd limits of hero worship.

OLYMPIC GAMES AT BANGALORE

It has now been finally decided that the next Indian Olympic Games will be held at Bangalore—from February 5 to 9. Thus has been possible only because the Mysore Government has promised to bear half the cost and render all possible help.

It is reported that an olympic village to house athletes a suitable stadium, with circular galleries to accommodate 20,000 spectators, and 400-metre standard track will all be laid out at the total cost of Rs. 60,000 on the bed of the Sampang Tank.

All this promises that the show will be a grand one. But more depends on the athletes themselves They must be in training from now so that they may give of their best when the proper time comes. It is a well-known fact that the Indian standard is far too low in comparison with that of the leading countries of the World Efforts of a more intensive character are needed to raise it to their level in the near future It is quite possible the next World Games may be held in 1948. India must be prepared, for it.

AUSTRALIANS NEXT

Failing in their attempt to bring out an M.C.C. team to India next winter, the Board of Control for Cricket, in India is now trying to persuade the Australian Service team which is now playing in England to pay a visit to this country on their way home. Although everybody would heartily welcome them, should they come here, I doubt very much if it would be at all possible because there are so many obstacles in the way.

Failing this, it has been suggested that a British Service team should be flown to India to make the tour I wonder if this will come to pass either—owing to the flighty nature of the proposal itself.

Ultimately, it is probable that a team fo Indian stars may tour different parts of the country as indicated by the Board of Control and whip up local interest thereby. It is not a bad idea altogether.

ENCOURAGEMENT TO SCHOOL CRICKETERS ..

The Board of Control has permitted the Cricket Association of Bengal to stage a tournament for school boys on an all-India basis. It would seem rather strange that the province which is so backward in this game should think of sponsoring such a competition. I do not know if any cricket is played at all by the Bengali School Boys! I suppose it is just to induce them to take up this game that the C. A. B. has made this move. I hope that their efforts will meet with success. I know how difficult it is to persuade boys who love and admire a thrilling and spectacular game like soccer to turn their attention to a slow and sedate game like cricket. It is well worth trying. In any case, it will give an impetus to those provinces who have already made some advance in it.

AN APPEAL TO GOANS

For more than a year, Bombay's hockey world has been in a state of turmoil. Following the heavy financial loss sustained by the B.P.H.A. in 1943-44 season, it suffered a further loss of over Rs. 1,100 last season. Although it was stated in their Annual Report that this was due to the extraordinary expenses incurred in connection with the Bombay teams participation in the All-India tournament at Gorakhpur, it is an open secret that this loss would have been more than made up if the Goan community had not boycotted all their engagements since the January Incident following the City. Police-Lusitanians match. I sincerely hope that the supporters of the latter club will forgive and forget in a truly sporting spirit as was appealed to them by my old friend, Cyriaco De Souza while presiding over the last Annual General Meeting, and help the cause of hockey in Bombay.

GAMA, THE CHAMPION

Sir,—I feel it my duty to correct your sports critic Mr. J. C. Maitra, who wrote recently about wrestling and the Gama family. The oldest game, wrestling, in which India excels, is fading out in India. We owe much to the Gama family who are trying their best to keep it alive against tremendous odds. Unjust criticism like this is bound to hurt the dying game. Mr. Maitra says that 'this may be an old tradition" for Gama to insist that "anybody and everybody" must beat his "Shagirds' Imambux, Hamida and 'Chota' Gama. Prophetically Mr. Maitra says that "in modern times it won't do." May I ask Mr. Maitra if "anybody and everybody' is allowed to meet Joe Louis by his manager and promoters? Is it not the law of the game in America that "anybody and everybody" including foreign champions must beat all the leading boxers of America before he is qualified as a challenger to meet the champion? I fail to see any difference between "old tradition' and the laws of the "Modern Times."

Fortunately or unfortunately for Gama all the leading wrestlers in India are his own relations. If Mr. Maitra has any doubt about it let him bring forward his fancy from India or outside India and match against anyone of the Gama family whomever he considers the weakest. The group, as now stands, is: Imambux, Hamida, Chota Gama and Bhoolo. I am ready to put fifty thousand rupees on anyone of them against Mr. Maitra's fancy. That should ensure Mr. Maitra to see a "straight fight." Alas Gunga, the only wrestler, to put up a good fight against them is dead. There is none to stand against them in the whole world. I am willing to help Mr. Maitra or anybody else who wants to prove it otherwise.

RASHID ANWAR,
World Olympic (Berlin 1936).
Wrestler,
Islamabad, Jullundur City.

NOW AVAILABLE

(1) THE FAMILY LAWYER by S. A. SHIROOR B.A. LL.B. ADVOCATE (O.S.) Rs. 12-8-0.
(2) BOMBAY AGRICULTURAL DEBTORS' RELIEF ACT with upto-date amendments IN MARATHI BY R. D. KULKARNI, B.A., LL.B. with a preface by JUSTICE LOKUR Rs. 4-0-0.
(3) THE BOMBAY PLAN, A Criticism by Profs. WADIA & MERCHANT Rs. 1-8-0.

THE POPULAR BOOK DEPOT
Lamington Road Bombay, 7.

Shanghai On Brink Of Starvation

More Than 2,000 Factories Closed, Rationing System Collapses

LONDON, August 3, (Reuter): Shanghai is on the brink of starvation while a handful of speculators have become millionaires according to a Chinese official statement issued here to-day Rationing system collapsed this summer and thousands of poor people driven by starvation, have formed themselves into "White Tiger" teams to sneak through Japanese lines to buy rice in free China at a much cheaper price than in Shanghai.

Recently more than 2,000 small factories closed down through lack of electric current. So far more than one and a half million employees have been rendered jobless.

Strikes are rampant—even the police force went on strike for several days and a stevedore strike in March paralysed shipping for six weeks.

Shanghai is inundated with valueless bank-notes of the Chinese 'Puppet" Government, of which 48 printing machines are reeling or day and night.

ALLIES STILL IN SEARCH OF HITLER

LONDON, August 4 (Reuter): Over an area of some 125,000 square miles, the Western Allies are keeping an unrelaxed watch for Adolf Hitler in case that after all he did not die in Berlin, says Reuter.

Hitler alive and in hiding is a possibility which the Russians do not exclude as Colonel General Alexander Gorbatov, the Soviet Military Commander in Berlin, said on Monday.

EGYPT'S DEMAND ON BRITAIN

CAIRO, August 4 (Reuter) A note addressed on Tuesday by Nahas Pasha, former Egyptian Prime Minister and leader of the Wafdist (Nationalist) Party to the British Ambassador, Lord Killfarn, summarising Egyptian aspirations was published today.

It urged that British-Egyptian relations should be considered before the peace conefrence and after recounting Egypt's war sacrifices asked that British troops should be withdrawn and Sudan United with Egypt.

BOYS' QUARREL OVER BOOKS ENDS IN TRAGEDY

BOMBAY, Saturday.

Sadanand Dattaram a seven-year old student residing at Mahim had a quarrel with his class mate who is of equal age over some books. The latter having got enraged it is alleged, hit Sadanand with a pointed pencil which pierced his chest. He was immediately removed to the K. E. M. Hospital where he died yesterday.

The inquest is adjourned.

For DOCTORS ONLY.

FRESH STOCKS OF BENCARD'S PRODUCTS FROM LONDON.

GREENOSAN TABLETS.

Greenosan, an extract of spinach and fruit, is a perfectly balanced combination of all the essential Vitamins and mineral salts including iron and copper, having the following composition per gramme (three tablets):

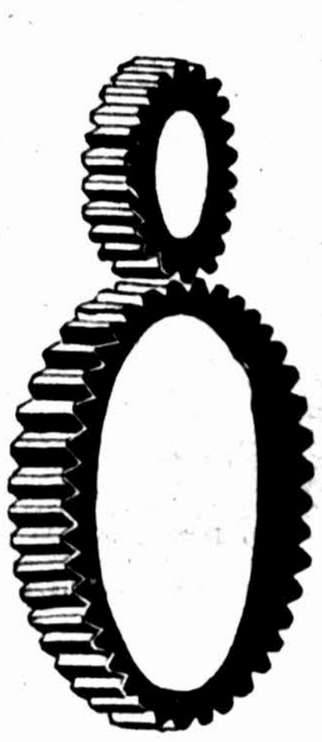
Chlorophyll 1 cg. Iron 3 cgs.
Vitamin A approx. 100 international units.
Vitamin C approx. 80 international units.
Vitamin P and the J factor.
Vitamin B1, B2, D, E, and H in effective quantities. Salts of Cu, Ca, Mn, Mg., and K: Lecithin 1 cg. and Iodine 0.005%.

INDICATIONS:

1. Hypovitaminosis (all conditions)
2. Routine use throughout PREGNANCY.
3. Most cases of ANAEMIA including Chronic Arthritis
4. General Tonic and for Convalescence.
5. Surgical Tuberculosis with severe secondary anaemia.
6. Eye conditions and Night Blindness.
7. Skin Diseases.

Literature and further particulars for Bencard's Products including Mixed Inhalant Solution (injection) for Asthma, from Sole Agents: CAMA, NORTON & CO., 23, Medows Street, BOMBAY.

Machinery



Industrial and Agricultural Machinery and spares of the highest quality.

Manufactured by:

BRITISH INDIA ENGINEERING CO.,
85, Love Lane, Mazagaon.
Bombay 10.

'Grams: "DIESELWORK"
Phone: 40732

Bombay Congress House To Be Restored

Police Intimate Tenants To Be Ready To Quit At Short Notice

Although the proceedings of the Governors' Conference recently held at Delhi are regarded as confidential and nothing has been said officially about the nature of the confabulations, private advices from Delhi indicate that the question of legalising the Congress organisation was certainly one of the questions considered.

In this connection, it is understood that the present occupants and tenants of the Congress House properties in Bombay have been intimated by the police authorities that they may have to move at short notice. Among these, is a clothing factory and a number of constables of the City Police Force who will be provided accomodation elsewhere.

Congress circles in Bombaby consider it probable that following the legalisation of the now unlawful Bombay Provincial Congress Committee, the Committee may be given possession of their premises in a few days, and they are preparing to move in with due ceremony.

Similar action may be expected to be taken in other provinces.

INDIA WON'T TOLERATE IMPERIALISTIC INROADS

Shroff's Plain-Speaking To American Big Business: Move To By-pass Sterling Pool

NEW YORK, August 3. (Reuter): Mr. A. D. Shroff, investment head of Tatas, made an outspoken statement to New York businessmen to-day on India's need for freer trade with the world, especially the United States, says Reuter.

Addressing the "Forum" of the international section of the "Board of Trade of New York" (an unofficial business organisation) he complained of restrictions on the entry of Indians—even businessmen—into the United States.

He declared that if the Government were to change in India, if a freer and more popular Government were formed, it would certainly encourage foreign industrialists to go and aid the country in its industrialisation plan.

Mr. Shroff emphasised "once bitten, twice shy having had sad experience with Great Britain in regard to its imperialistic policy following trade, India will not tolerate any attempt by Americans or anyone else to go into India on a pretence of trading but actually with imperialistic designs

"India will resist all such endeavours. India, at present, does not need so much actual monetary as technical assistance. American experts and 'know hows' can help us in our industrialisation programme".

Mr. Shroff described the decision of the Government of India to allow 20,000,000 dollars (over Rs. 6,50,00,000 per year) to be transferred from the Sterling pool into Dollars as "little or nothing", declaring that his own firm, on its own, could use that mount and much more in a very short time. It did not solve the problem of Sterling balances. The United States was the only country which could supply the machinery and machinetools which India needed.

Mr. J. J. Singh, President of the India League of America, declared that Indians in America would greatly appreciate any help from the Board of Trade in the passage of the present legislation for immigration of Indians into the United States.

The chairman of the Forum was Mr. John Zellers, a New York businessman. The meeting decided that a resolution be framed and sent to the United States Government suggesting that, even if nothing could be done about Sterling pool receipts, all favourable trade balances should henceforth not be transferred into the Sterling pool thereby giving chance to Indian businessmen to buy in America without having to refer to the Sterling pool.

DESTROYING CARTELS

NEW YORK, August 3. The United States help to independent Indian businessmen to destroy cartels strangling some of their trade, was promised to-day by a high United States official.

"We will do everything possible to help", he said. "In the Indian electric lamp industry, for example, five companies have hogged the whole Indian market and electric lamps are sold in India to-day at a price much higher than would be justified under free competition.

It is learned that one of the main objects of the visits by the Indian industrialists to Washington was to discuss this matter with officials of anti-trust division of the Department of Justice.

Sir Sultan Chinoy, one of those interested in breaking the electric appliance "cartel" in India, told Reuter: "We have received definite assurances and will be given every possible assistance necessary to purchase electrical appliances and manufacturing machinery in the United States when we receive enough dollar credits. This will enable us to compete with Indian cartels on a very advantageous basis".

Sir Sultan Chinoy will take the matter a step further when he returns to London.

Surat Civic Tribute To Pherozeshah

SURAT, August 4. (A.P.I.): A resolution recording the meritorious services of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta to India and the Bombay Presidency was passed by the Surat Municipality, Diwan Bahadur Zaveri presided. The municipality also decided to observe August 9 as a holiday.

WHEN MACDONALD REPULSED SOVIET APPROACH

Brailsford's Disclosure: Plea For Common Socialist Policy Of Peace

(From Our Correspondent)

LONDON, August 4

Writing in the "New Statesman and Nation", Mr. H. N. Brailsford recalls that on the eve of the first Labour Government formation in 1924, M. Rakowsky, the Russian Trade Commissioner, said to Mr. Brailsford. "Hitherto there has been only one Socialist Government in the world. To-morrow there will two. Let us get together immediately and work out a common constructive policy of peace which we should propose to the world. It should begin with a drastic plan of all-round disarmament, the more radical the better. But it should not stop there. We should wish it to cover the whole field of world policy as Socialists see it." M. Rakowsky then reminded Mr. Brailsford that Lord Curzon had bedevilled Anglo-Russian relations with a thick cloud of controversies over Fisheries, a three-mile limit, Tibet, Tsarist debts and much else. M. Rakowsky added: "None of these things matter to either of us as Socialists. If our experts meet they can clear the board of them in a week or less. While that goes on I want to talk to Mr. MacDonald about one thing and that does matter, namely, our creative Socialist policy of peace." M. Rakowsky asked Mr. Brailsford to arrange for a meeting with Mr. MacDonald. In due time Mr. Brailsford wrote a letter to Mr. MacDonald, himself acting as host and interpreter.

Mr. MacDonald answered promptly in his own neat handwriting. He refused to meet M. Rakowsky. Further he had no intention of recognising the Soviet Union. His information was that it would collapse within six weeks. He would look foolish if he were to recognise it on the eve of its fall.

Mr. Brailsford goes on: Some of us then went to work to reverse this decision and succeeded, thanks largely to Mr. E. D. Morel's efforts. Mr. MacDonald then told me that though he personally would not meet M. Rakowsky, he would authorise Mr. Arthur Ponsonby, his Under-Secretary, to do so if I would act as host. The meeting was uncomfortable, for Mr. Ponsonby was obviously tied up in the instructions that bound him hand to foot and would talk nothing but the City's debts. I tried and M. Rakowsky tried again and again to raise the real issue —a common Socialist policy of peace. We failed. My lunch ended unhappily with a sense of failure and disillusion."

Mr. Brailsford asks: Is it too late for our two movements to meet again in the spirit of this offer of 1924? Has so much water flowed in the meantime under the bridges of the Thames and Moskwa? There is no longer any difference between a Socialist approach and the normal bargaining of power politics now. M. Stalin and Mr. Attlee meet as masters of two great power-complexes. Then is it, a dream of the vanished generation that they should meet as heads of the world's two Socialist Governments linked by a common ideology? Never was there greater need for a common constructive socialist policy of peace. Twenty years have changed us both.

SPRINGBOARD FOR MIGHTY INVASION FORCE

Ryukyu Island Chain Now Under MacArthur

MANILA, August 4. (Reuter): Gen. Douglas MacArthur announced to-day that the entire Ryukyu island chain which includes Okinawa has been placed under his command from midnight on Tuesday as the base "from which a mighty invasion force is being forged".

WITH EVER-INCREASING TEMPO

LONDON, August 4. (Reuter): Major-Gen. Curtis E. Lemay, Commander of the Twenty-First Bomber Command in a broadcast from Guam relayed by the New York Radio, said last night: "Japan has lost the war. After our strategic bombing and after the way our navy and ground forces have pushed the enemy back, I believe the Japanese must know that they are beaten just the same as the Germans did before the collapse.

"If Japan wants to remain in the war, she can only expect total destruction at an early date, of her entire industrial system, including the industrial power of her cities. If Japan wants another six months like the last six, she will get it and our attacks will have an ever increasing tempo: five times the bomb load and all the bombs on the target—that ought to destroy Japan's ability to make war".

"OUTRAGEOUS"

The Japanese News Agency states that well-informed quarters in Tokyo describe as "outrageous" the American charge that the Japanese Government was deliberately locating American prisoners of war near military objectives to protect such areas from American bombers.

The Agency adds "in the face of the current indiscriminate bombing by the Americans there is certainly not a single area of safety throughout Japan. Despite American precision bombing, there is no end to cases where women and children in remote farming and fishing villages have been the victims of American planes, not to mention the large numbers of civilians killed or injured in the great cities of Tokyo, Osaka, Yokohama, Nagoya and others."

The Agency declares that the transportation needed for such shifting of prisoner of war camps will instead be employed by the Japanese Government in the production of "Superforts" and other aircraft to sink American warships and transport.

S.E.A.C. 'COMMUNIQUE'

ADV. HQ. S.E.A.C., August 4 (API): Our troops operating in the area of the lower Sittang, 15 miles east of the Mandalay-Rangoon road, cleared enemy positions astride the railway at Abya, 22 miles north-east of Pegu on the Pegu-Martaban Railway, says to-day's S.E.A.C. 'communique.' Heavy casualties continued to be inflicted on enemy troops surrounded in a 'nullah', seven miles north of Nyaunglebin.

On the Mawchi road, enemy artillery was active in the area 28 miles east of Toungoo.

NEW JAP WOODEN PLANE

LONDON, August 4. (U.P.A.): The Tokyo Radio to-day described the new Japanese war plane made of wood as superior to Britain's Mosquito and Russia's 'Legg' planes which also are made of wood. The new Japanese planes will play a vital part in the forthcoming battle for the Japanese mainland, it was said.

It quoted Tokyo newspapers as asserting that the wooden air-planes now are being produced in increasingly large numbers despite many difficulties. High school girls are assisting in the building of frameworks for the air-planes.

USING U. S. WEAPONS AGAINST COMMUNISTS

Replying to charges that American lend-lease weapons supplied to the Chungking Government are being used by Generalissimo Chiang Kai-Shek's forces in clashes with recalcitrant Chinese Communist Armies in the Yellow River region, Lieut. Gen. Albert Wedemeyer said that the allegations may be correct.

American weapons are supplied to the Central Government of China which is the government recognised by the United States, he said.

The so-called Chinese Soviet Government in Yenan recently reported that American "bazookas" were being used against its troops in skirmishes with Chungking forces.

CHINESE COMMUNISTS CAPTURE TOWN

The Yenan radio said that the Chinese Communist Eighth Route Army has captured the town of Chiao-Ho in Hopeh after exterminating troops of the Japanese-controlled Chinese government in Nanking who had been garrisoning the city.

AUSTRALIANS ADVANCE IN BORNEO

Australian forces in eastern Borneo are advancing along the approaches to the Mahakan river Delta oil fields and are threatening the Japanese line of retreat southwards toward the town of Bandjermasin, General Douglas A. MacArthur announced to-day.

CHINESE CONVOY SEARCHED

Police Haul Sensation

MARGHERITA, August 2. (A.P.I.): Smuggled goods valued at several lakhs of rupees are reported to have been seized in a sensational raid by the police recently at Dibrugarh, when 39 trucks of a chinese convoy proceeding to the frontier are reported to have been searched.

The raid was made by the Superintendent of Police, Dibrugarh, with a strong police force from almost all police stations in the Sub-Division. The assistance of American military police was taken for unloading a truck. The search lasted several hours.

The goods seized, it is alleged, included many varieties of cloth, yarn, cigarettes, also a quantity of gold and a big box of opium. Sixteen police officers, including C.I.D. officers, worked for a number of hours to make the seizure list. A number of arrests were made.

Karachi Reception To Khuhro

KARACHI, August 3. (A.P.I.): Khan Bahadur M. A. Khuhro arrived in Karachi to-day and was received by Sir Ghulam Hussain Hidayatullah, Sind Premier, Mr. G. M. Syed, President of the Sind Muslim League, and their Muslim League Ministers at the railway station. Khan Bahadur Khuhro was garlanded and was taken in a procession to his house.

A public meeting has been arranged, at Idgah Maidan in the evening, at which Khan Bahadur Khuhro will speak.

Thanksgiving prayers were held in many mosques at Sukkur, Larkana and Karachi yesterday.

LITTLE MEMORIES Of A Great Man

By Sir BOMANJI WADIA, Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University

Sir Pherozeshah was as much noted for high thinking as for high living. He had a regal manner and justified in every way his title "The Uncrowned King Of Bombay."

Sir Pherozeshah Mehta touched life at many points during his long and strenuous career. It may be asked whether he worked more in the interests of civic life in the Municipal Corporation, or for the advancement of education in the University of Bombay. He gave his best to both, and both were equally the poorer for his loss when he died in November, 1915.

His work in the Corporation must have undoubtedly appealed to a larger number of the public, for local self-government is the training ground for the higher political life of the country. But he had to fight many hard battles in the University Senate too. The tone and composition of that body has altered much since his time, and it would be worth knowing whether the members talked less then than they do now.

Stone For Bread!

Sir Pherozeshah was opposed to the Universities Act of 1904 which he thought was a retrograde measure. He had often pleaded for University reform before, and in one of his remarkable speeches in the Senate he said that they had for years asked for bread and they at last got a stone, and when they could not swallow the stone, they were called names. He was first a Fellow and a Dean, and was appointed Vice-Chancellor in 1915, but had hardly entered upon the last-named office when death cut short his career.

Sir Pherozeshah was a man with a remarkable personality. All his battles were fought in clear language and in hard-cut sentences. Even when his opponents differed, they realized that he had put up a case which had to be met. He was devoid of sentiment and never indulged in high-sounding words.

Lead In World War

The last time I heard him was in the old Town Hall sometime about the beginning of 1915. It was the year in which Gokhale died and when his own end was not far off. It was at a meeting convened in the midst of the First Great War when Belgium had already been overrun, and the spirit of the Allies, though never down, was none too high. He said that he mourned the loss of his friend Gokhale and that he was himself none too well, and then in words charged with deep feeling he added that in his life, and on the very platform from which he was then speaking, he had often stood up for the 'rights' of the citizens of Bombay.

Now, that is in 1915, it was his wish to remind the citizens of their duties, and their duty then was to help in the war effort and to promote the cause of the Allies. I never forgot, not so much the speech, as the way in which he spoke and the effect his words had on the audience.

High Thinking—And Living

Sir Pherozeshah belonged to the Liberal school of English political thought as represented by men like Bright, Gladstone and Morley. He did not impress one as being very democratic in his way of life, but he always stood up for the Liberal traditions of justice, moderation, and the avoidance of extremes. He had the courage of his convictions, and kept his presence of mind when in front of us the shoe was flung at him on the historic platform at Surat in 1907.

Sir Pherozeshah had his foibles and his weaknesses, even as all great men have. Along with high thinking went also high living, and his clothing was always immaculate. He had by no means a small voice, and I once heard him speak at the Rugby Hotel in Matheran about public matters with as much zest as about the little nothings of domestic life, about dress, about servants, and the fine products of the culinary art.

Incidentally it may be mentioned that his love for Matheran remained unabated till the end. He shared this love with other stalwarts of his time, Jamsetji Tata, Badruddin Tyabji, and Nowroji Wadia after whom the College at Poona is named.

The Wider Loyalty

His non-communalism was not a phrase but a fact. His classic avowal, "I am an Indian first and a Parsi afterwards," has already passed into the history of the land. It was the text of which his whole public career was the most memorable exposition. The sentence is often quoted, but not in the spirit in which he meant it. His friends and followers belonged to all communities.

We pay much attention in these days to party labels, but he preferred the wider to the narrower loyalty. He always liked to speak, even to dictate; and his friends agreed. Their's was not to reason why; their's was but to listen; and if they disagreed, to occasionally heave a sigh. His Chambers where they all assembled of an evening, were opposite the Clock Tower. The land mark is still there, but the Clock at present shows ninety-nine minutes in advance of his time.

A Well-Read Man

It is often asked what he would have said or done at this or that juncture. None can fathom any one else's mind, much less that of a dead man. One thing seems clear from the things he used to say. None would have regretted more the communal bitterness which now tends to divide what he always strove to unite. Himself the founder of a daily journal which has always espoused the cause of unity for which he stood, he yet never cultivated the press. He made no obeisance to the mob, though the people followed him wherever he went, and he was not above the soft blandishments of their applause.

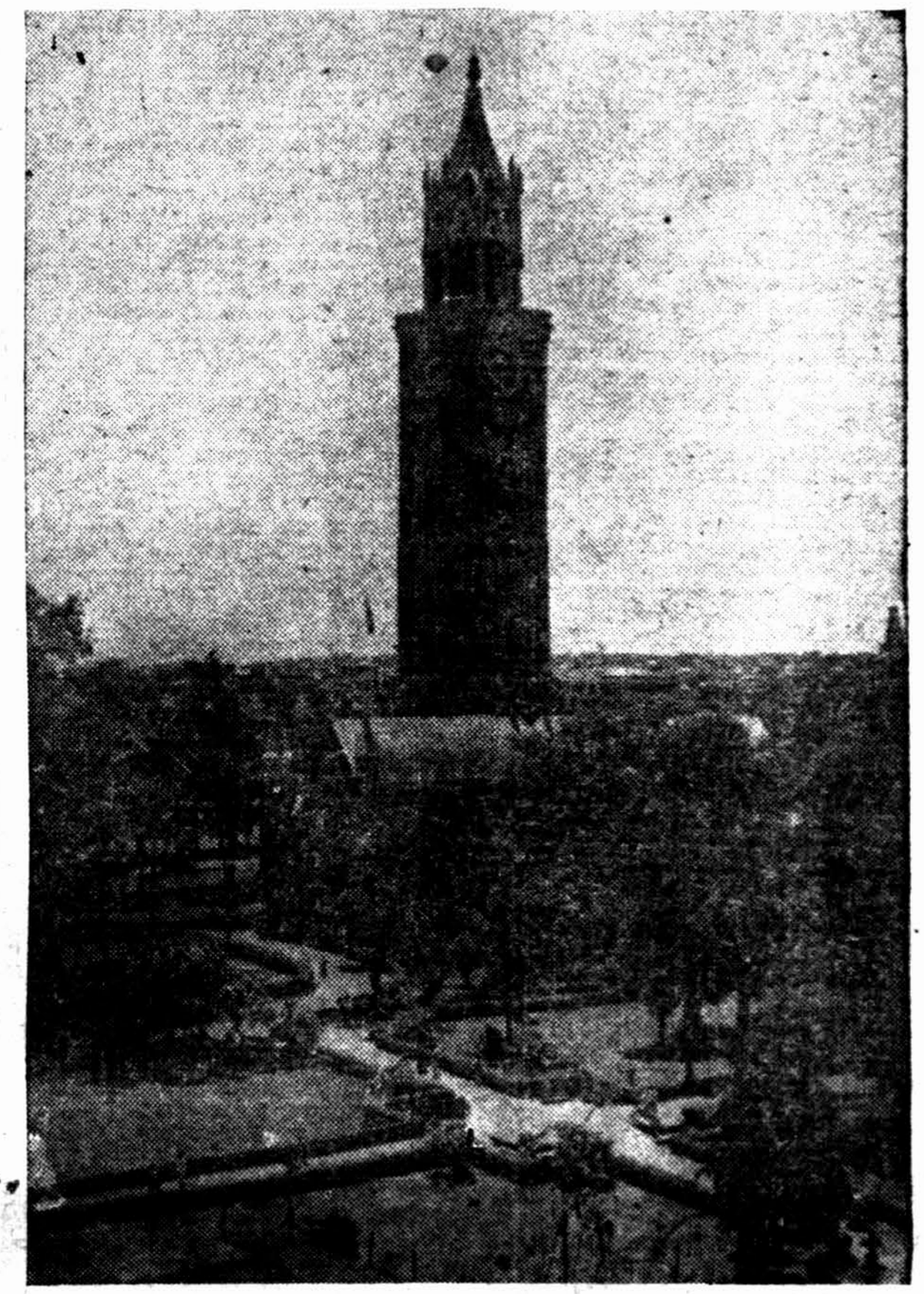
Sir Pherozeshah was a well-read man. He was fond of reading English literature, but his love was for his old favourites—Wordsworth, Dickens and Tennyson. He never tired of quoting the well-known lines by Arthur Clough, Tennyson's friend:

"For while the 'tired waves, vainly breaking,
Seemed here no painful inch to gain,
Far back, through creeks and inlets making,
Comes silent, flooding in, the main."

Victorian Traditions

About this the then editor of the "Times of India" once wrote that it was time Sir Pherozeshah revised and enlarged his reading of poetry. He, however, never cared to. He was brought up in the Victorian tradition—in life, in politics, in literature and in art, and he kept the same tenour of his way till the end of his life.

Sir Pherozeshah died, as he had been for many years, the uncrowned king of Bombay. Thousands gathered to pay their respects on that early November morning when his last remains were carried in the old style. Thousands belonging to all classes, prince and peasant, walked behind his bier, and many were heard to whisper to each other in hushed tones —The great man is gone!



The Bombay University Gardens with the Rajabai Tower looming high in the background.

Responsive Co-operation

(Continued from Page 7)

matter of fact for a generation past, who has done as much as Sir Pherozshah Mehta for the civic life of his particular city, and who was not only the founder of a political organisation like the National Congress, but was also the father of the Municipal Corporation of Urbs Prima in Indis, and when we realise that the Municipal Corporation of Bombay has the well-deserved reputation of being one of the best and ideal self-governing institution in the country, we can well realise what this achievement means.

The Municipal Corporation, at least uptil a few years ago, was considered as a model institution and its constitution, its procedure, were copied by other smaller local bodies, and it would not be an exaggeration to say, that this model has furnished examples, so that the spreading of self-governing institutions in the whole country may be attributed rightly to this great founder and father of the Corporation of Bombay. Similarly, in the educational line, he was a great and prominent member and leader in the University of Bombay, and to his initiative, intelligence and concentration, could be traced so many progressive reforms even in that exclusively educational institution. So also in social and other public activities he was prominently in the fore-front.

Unfortunately such universal activity, spreading over all the useful walks of life, by one leader has now ceased, and we find now-a-days national political leaders, concentrating purely on political pursuit; while after all undoubtedly 'Swaraj' is a goal worth fighting for and no amount of sacrifice would be considered enough, but since that goal seems to be a distant one, there is no reason why the same national political leaders, who wield such great influence over the masses, and who have the capacity to do much good in day to day affairs to the people of the country, should not pay some attention also to the present-day hardships and sufferings of the people and try to improve the situation even under the foreign domination. This is a great lesson to be learnt from leaders like Sir Pherozshah Mehta.

Veering Political Winds

Particularly, the centenary coming at a political juncture in the country, when I am sure every critical student of politics, will also appreciate the political stand-point and the vision of leaders of those days including Sir Pherozshah Mehta, Lokamanya Tilak and the rest. Their policy which was ridiculed uptil yesterday as moderate, constitutional and ineffectual, namely the policy described as 'responsive co-operation', that is to accept what we get for the time being and with the help of that fight for the rest. Further, the policy which was ridiculed until yesterday as subject matter of severe criticism, namely reliance upon the British Parliament and Cabinets for the political progress and advancement of our country, we find to-day that after all that criticism and ridicule, the so-called extremists and revolutionary leaders of to-day are veering round to the same point where Sir P. Mehta and his collaborators had left.

Even to-day as the Simla Conference proved, the so called ridiculed moderate and constitutional policy of those leaders and patriots, stands vindicated and justified, because in spite of all glamour and pomp round about the Simla Conference, the ultimate result is that even an extremist body like the Congress has now come to the view point of 'responsive co-operation,' namely to accept what is offered and to work it not for any selfish ends but for the purpose of the future fight for our ultimate goal so that the goal may be brought nearer.

Paper restrictions remind us sadly of the happy days when carriages were made of paper. It was in the reign of Louis XVI. An excellent poet, the "abbe" Delille, had been violently attacked by an envious colleague. He took his revenge by buying up his enemy's satires by weight, and getting a cabriolet made of them. He used to tell his coachman: "Put the horse to my colleague's ephemeral works."

But he had a worse enemy in his own house—his niece who after she had become his wife had the unpleasant habit of throwing books at his head. One day when she had almost hit him with a fat quarto, he gently implored her: "Darling, couldn't you limit your caresses to duodecimos?"

THE LAST OF THE POLITICAL BARONS

(Continued from Page 9)

of active politics. He had always a double role to perform viz. to uphold Mehta's view, but to defend his personal friend Tilak, if there was undue criticism of him coming from any quarter. There was N. V. Gokhale, a fine gentleman, modest and self-suppressive almost to a fault, a close student, a keen but courteous debater, but excessively deferential to his leader. There was Gokuldas Parekh, with eyes half shut for half the day, studious and painstaking, but hopeless as a debater or public speaker, who never captured any heart and sent more than half his audience to sleep out of utter boredom.

Association With Gokhale

But there were other types also. For there was Chimanlal Setalwad, perhaps the youngest man to enter any Legislature, keen, quick-witted ambitious, a good speaker, tenacious of his views, but as ready to surrender to Mehta out of sheer loyalty. Then there was N. M. Samarth, witty, malicious and frivolous, but commanding a facile tongue and pen, a reliable propagandist for Mehta's views. Then there was Sir Narayanrao Chandavarkar, who could provide a spiritual lining for every problem and decision, wielded an influence among Government Official and Christian circles, which no one else could, and was regarded as an ornament to Mehta's entourage. Dalvi was there, a bushful junior, ready to argue with and criticize any one in the Chamber. I do not remember to have ever met or seen Mr. Jinnah in Pherozeshah's Chamber. But I first heard his name as Pherozeshah's Counsel or legal representative in the "Bombay Municipal Caucus Case". And I must not omit Hari Sitaram Dixit, a thoroughly level-headed man, who did not aspire to be a politician, but took interest in his own way in public affairs, especially where his services as a Solicitor would be useful.

Prof. Gokhale of course was a member of the Moderate and Liberal Political Party of which Mehta was the acknowledged head. But if originally he was the acknowledged pupil of M. G. Ranade, also after Ranade's death in 1901, Gokhale showed some love of independence For instance, Mehta was not in agreement with Gokhale in his policy about the South African Indian question. Gokhale, I believe co-operated with Gandhi and differed from Mehta over the "Gandhi-Smuts Agreement". Also Mehta could not understand and appreciate Gokhale's scheme of a "Servants of India Society". In that respect some rich merchants and industrialists of Bombay, like Vithaldas Thackersey, gave their entire confidence and support to Gokhale.

So far, however, as the National Congress was concerned, Mehta and Gokhale were always on the same side. Of course Ranade was the source of inspiration even in politics, but being a Government servant he had to leave the actual management of the Congress to Mehta, who, being a Barrister, was free openly to lead a political movement.

Undisputed Leader

For about 30 years from 1885 to 1915 Mehta guided the policy of the Moderate Party in the Bombay Presidency. But the challenge had come to him in 1906 from the Nationalist Party headed by Tilak, supported by the Bengal Nationalists who revolted against Surendranath Banerji in their own province. And the defeat of the Moderate Party would have been recorded statistically at the Surat instead of the Lucknow Congress, if it had not been broken up. Tilak, bent upon re-entering the Congress after his return from Mandalay, was delayed for two years more by the opposition of Gokhale than that of Mehta. For, looking to the trend of events generally, Mehta wanted Tilak to enter the Congress.

Mehta's close touch with the Liberal Parliamentary Party in England practically ended with the death of Cotton and Wedderburn. But that Party was being replaced on the one side by the rejuvenation of the British Conservative Party on the one hand, and the advent of the Labour Party on the other. I believe, Mehta visited England once or twice after he turned to India in 1867 as a Barrister but did not do any active political work there. Different was the case with Gokhale and Lajpatrai and even Dadabhai Naoroji. Gokhale and Lajpatrai of course addressed political meetings on the Labour Party platform. But Dadabhai openly attended the European Socialist Party gathering at Amsterdam. Mehta, I am told, did not like this, believing as he did, in exclusive loyalty to the British Liberal Party. Dadabhai, having spent most of his life in the free and living political atmosphere of England, was able more correctly to estimate the trend of political events in Great Britain than Mehta.

From his chair in his Chamber, Mehta ruled over the whole political realm in the Bombay Presidency. Not only could he claim to be the spokesman of public opinion in the Bombay City, but his influence and authority were in conclusive evidence in the mofussil also. For a number of years the management of the Provincial Conference was entirely in the hands of Mehta, and the Presidents of such Conferences were generally chosen from his own cabinet—a ministry of all talents,—whom I have tried to describe above. Council elections in all sub-provinces of Bombay turned upon the blessings which this or that candidate could secure from Mehta.

Mehta was not very mobile. It was great pressure of persons or events that induced him to attend meetings of Provincial Conferences or Congress session. But within the city itself of Bombay his activities were not one-sided. Apart from the work of the Bombay Presidency Association, he devoted a good deal of time to the work of the Bombay University and the Bombay Municipal Corporation, in both of which he had earned the position of the leader or the boss. His work in the Central Legislature, then meeting at Calcutta, was short-lived but his advocacy of Indian interests and his fearless opposition to the supreme authorities at the headquarters, made a mark and set up a standard for those who were to follow him.

A Judgeship on the Bombay High Court Bench, the Vice-Chancellorship of the Bombay University and Presidentship of the Bombay Corporation were honours which he could have easily commanded. Thrice was he elected President of the Corporation I believe a High Court Judgeship was offered but refused by him. He was appointed Vice-Chancellor of the Bombay University only in the last stage of his life.

The relations between Government and Mehta were never very cordial though his politics was of a merely constitutional and 'moderate' character. He was not one of those who were determined to see no good in anything that Government did. But seldom did Government do things of which he could whole-heartedly approve And so he appeared always to be in the opposition. His style of criticism of Government measures was forceful and fearless, and having no personal interest of any kind to serve at the hands of Government, Government could never expect to win him over.

It can be definitely asserted that he was the LAST OF THE POLITICAL BARONS OF BOMBAY. Not that there have been no leaders of public opinion or political movements in Bombay after Mehta. But there has been no single leader after him who could come upto him in point of dignity influence and the greatness of personality, which mark out a man with real distinction.

There were Governors like Lord Reay whom Mehta could openly admire and eulogise. But there were also Governors like Lord Sydenham whom Mehta sincerely hated It is well-known that Mehta indignantly refused to carry out the wishes of Lord Sydenham, who wanted Mehta to denounce Tilak after his conviction for sedition in 1908. Mehta would have liked to woo Tilak to come and be his follower. But two iron wills can hardly co-operate and work wedded together, though they may admire each other at a distance.

Old Story

There is no end to the anecdotes told about the Crimea Conference in the British and still more in the American press. Soviet hospitality was cordial and sumptuous.

The Big Three worked hard and spent their short leisure trying to strengthen the friendly feeling already in existence After a long sitting they were talking gaily with each other.

Churchill said: "If I wasn't an Englishman I should like to be an American."

Roosevelt replied. "If I wasn't an American I should like to be an Englishman."

Both glanced at Stalin, curious to hear what he would say. In his calm voice he said: "If I wasn't a Russian I should be ashamed of myself."

COSTLY RELATIONS

HERE are the loathsome rat, his cousin the rabbit, and that unwelcome relation, the squirrel. What is the connection between them and the British chemical industry? All rodents are the enemies alike of the farmer and fruit grower, the market gardener and merchant. The damage they do has been estimated at many lakhs of rupees a year — and almost all of this is foodstuffs. It is characteristic of rodents that they destroy even more than they devour. Thus rats not only eat the grain in stack and granary; they render an even greater quantity unfit for human consumption by fouling it. Besides eating the eggs and young of birds, squirrels play havoc in orchard and garden, wantonly nipping off fruit or vegetables and laying by stores which they often forget all about. All such pests must be ruthlessly kept down and it is here that the British research chemist and the chemical factory enter, by evolving new and more effective ways of attacking them. To trapping, snaring and shooting have been added methods of chemical warfare. Rats are poisoned by the use of baits containing such chemicals as arsenic, phosphorus, zinc phosphide, barium carbonate and red squill. They can also be gassed with sulphur dioxide or the exhaust gas (carbon monoxide) of car or motor-cycle. Far the most humane as well as efficient way of exterminating rodents is by cyanide-gas poisoning. It is also safe and simple — a level tablespoonful of cyanide dust is placed in the entrance to the burrow, which is then sealed with earth. The rodents within are rapidly and painlessly killed. As for the squirrel, the best two methods of settling accounts remain trapping and shooting. But in the total war against rodent pests, chemical warfare is most effective.

ICI

IMPERIAL CHEMICAL INDUSTRIES (INDIA) LTD

A TONIC OF PROVED MERIT

ENERGON

Combination of

Glycerophosphates, Iron and Strychnine with Lecithin and Vitamin B Complex.

REPLACES TISSUE-WASTE
ACCELERATES METABOLISM
REMOVES NERVE-FATIGUE
BUILDS STRENGTH & ENERGY

A BENGAL CHEMICAL PRODUCT

Agents: ORIENT DRUG AGENCY
Lamington Chambers, Lamington Road, Bombay 4.

A Masterful Personality

By J. R. B. Jeejeebhoy

In Sir Pherozeshah's Chambers On The Esplanade Road Most Public Issues Were First Discussed And Often Decided Finally

Those of the people of India who have some pretension to knowledge and enlightenment and are capable enough to represent the masses in the councils of the Empire, may be divided into three classes: those that are immovable, those that are movable and those that move.

To the last group belonged Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, popular, handsome, slightly above the average height, who radiated vigour, courage and personality and behind whose magnificent facade lay qualities of sturdy character hardly less admirable. During the fifty years of his career there was not one stage of public activity, whether in the civic, Provincial or Imperial sphere, on which his dominating individuality did not count as one of the foremost advocates of progress and reform. In the Bombay Corporation and the University his guidance was like a blaze of light flashing from all points, at once illuminating all questions and disentangling all knotty points. In the political sphere he was one of those few public workers who unveiled the vision of a federated India to the people of this country, an India in which the Hindus, the Mussalmans, the Sikhs the Parsees, the Christians and other minor communities might work hand in hand and enjoy the advantages of self-government as a co-ordinate member of the British Commonwealth. "I will never be associated with any movement which recognises racial or communal division," said he, and the enunciation of this view is evidence of the genuine catholicity of his outlook.

Apostle Of Nationalism

More than sixty years ago when Indian Nationalism was in the air yet scarcely perceptible, he stood as its apostle, an attitude which stands in strong contrast to that of today when although the country is on the eve of the long-awaited changes, the dominating communal bitterness and jealousy step in to retard the wheels of political reform. "I am an Indian first and a Parsee afterwards," said Sir Pherozeshah and in all his public actions his selflessness, broad outlook and nationalism won for him a devotion and a place unique in the history of this country, a position which riches and influence could scarcely have attained. If Edmund Burke gave to his party what was meant for mankind, Pherozeshah refused to give to his community what was due to his country. That was the true test of his patriotism which uplifted him to a higher plane of citizenship and consecrated his future public career which even today, after the lapse of half a century, brings out in brighter lustre the grandeur of his intellect and the loftiness of his character.

Lala Harkishen Lal of the Punjab, the well-known Congressman, once said: "Whenever I came near him, I felt a natural awe and in spite of his 'bon homie' extended to all, I felt as if I was in the presence of a master and must behave myself" With his memory unbounded, logic overpowering, language lofty and forceful and interspersed with anecdotes, his ready repartee the variety of his humour, and above all, with his awe-inspiring personality, Sir Pherozeshah conquered his opponents not by gassing but by electrifying them.

A Clean Fighter

Along with the gift of the gab he had also the gift of the stab but very seldom did he use that weapon and if he at all did, there was no stain on his blade. Standing like a solid rock unmoved against the waves, he returned "argument for argument, invective for invective, banter for banter and ridicule for ridicule." but never did he carry a sword in his tongue to wound the reputation of his adversary. Every weapon in his mental armoury was brought into service to carry his point but he seldom lost command of his temper, which means losing peace of mind and control over one's self, thus abandoning clearness of thought, grasp of the situation and more often than not, the respect of one's hearers. His logic and eloquence won for him that co-operation which influence and persuasion could hardly have inspired.

"Where is the necessity for the warning", he once said, "that members take their cue from me and vote for a proposition because I am in favour of it. . .I have no sugar plums to distribute. . . .I can only indulge in —if I may be a bit poetic—the feast of reason and the flow of soul. I can give you reason and supply you with arguments, I cannot give you Rao Bahadurships, I cannot give you Khan Bahadurships. . . .And one time in my younger days people used to play with my name and call me Ferocious Mehta but advanced in years and with my apostolic old age, the ferocious character has fallen from me and I can frighten no one and cannot votes by any other source than reason, justice and right."

No Equal In Debate

In the Bombay Corporation there arose many an occasion when anybody who was nobody pretended to be somebody in the eyes of the public by wagging his tongue on matters he understood precious little about, followed by others who understood much less or nothing at all, their tongues running the faster, like a race-horse, the lighter weight they carried. These members whose sole object was to see their names in print the next day, lost sight of the famous dictum that freedom of speech does not mean the right to speak as you please but the liberty to speak as you ought to. During the period of such harangues when the house would be inclined to invoke Cardinal Newman for "light, more kindly light, amidst the encircling gloom" one witnessed at that critical juncture the commanding personality of the lion of debate rising from his seat, the torrent of his arguments breaking through all strong obstacles and rushing on and carrying the house with him by his forceful reasoning coupled with the sincerity and genuineness of purpose with which he spoke.

He had no axe to grind. He stuck to his guns if he thought he was right even when the Governor and the Executive Councillors were against him. He could disagree without being disagreeable. A High Court Judge once said that he had no equal in India in debating power and fearlessness. He knew also, like an experienced general how to retreat when occasion demanded. He was a man of grit, a man of grasp and a man of go. Honesty of purpose, uprightness, reasonableness and sincerity, these were some of the qualities of which he had been an admirable exponent.

Lover Of Literature

Sir Pherozeshah's career inculcated the lesson that mere emotion, however ardent, and idealism, however lofty, can ill supply the place of sweet reasonableness, sanity and practical common sense, without which no tangible results could be achieved. It was not who was right but what was right, that was of primary importance. He was a statesman and not an agitator, transparently sincere, clear-headed, with persuasive powers inherent in him, strong of conviction and always aiming at the practical and the progressive. He respected not only popular opinions but even popular prejudices. As a consummate debater he had hardly been surpassed by any of his contemporaries "If you want to learn the art of debate," he once told his co-worker Sir Narayan Chandawarkar, "study Bolingbroke and Hume." "But who reads Bolingbroke today, he is entirely forgotten," asserted Chandawarkar. "Well," replied Sir Pherozeshah, "you have no ear for music. Burke's philosophy has spoilt your ear."

The great leader during his travels always carried with him copies of his Tennyson, Thackeray and Dickens and reaped a fund of advantage from these his favourite authors during his leisure hours. I also remember his having told me once to read Macaulay's History of England and especially the chapter on the Trial of the Seven Bishops to get an idea of the beauty and force of the English language.

The professors of the law have furnished the most numerous examples of men who have achieved greatness. Sir Pherozeshah was the most outstanding of them. His rise to power and the influence he commanded were due to his making the law the ladder to civic and political eminence. The choice of his profession decided the shape of things that were to come in the life of this great man. "A lawyer is everything", he once stated in the Bombay Legislative Council. "The great English Government is largely carried on by a larger number of lawyers than any other profession in the world. And why is that? Because it is the lawyer's training and the lawyer's mind which is more capable of grasping the real problems which have to be dealt with, of whatever character they may be, than the particular individuals belonging to that profession themselves.

Public Forum

More than a quarter of a century has elapsed since the passing of Sir Pherozeshah who more than any other, made the city of Bombay what it is today. His chamber at the Esplanade Road was in fact the factory in which all public questions were handled primarily and given shape to before they were brought before the Corporation, the University Senate or the Legislative Council. Even claims of candidates for public posts such as the Presidentship and Chairmanship of the Bombay Corporation and its Standing Committee, the representations in the University Senate, Legislative and Imperial Councils, etc. were thoroughly discussed and the honour evenly and judiciously distributed and, what is noteworthy is that success invariably favoured the nominees of this Bombay Cabinet.

Here also was discussed and decision arrived at as regards the desirability or otherwise of holding a public meeting in honour of some notable person or to protest against some Government measure. In that unpretentious room one noticed in his familiar chair the towering figure of the uncrowned king surrounded by his ministers such as Wacha, Setalwad, Samarth, Dikshit, Dalvi, Kama, Petit and at times Chandawarkar, Gokhale, Bhalchandra, Ibrahim and others discussing with great vehemance the civic and political questions of the day. It was really a treat to be in such a company presided over by this masterful personality, the guiding spirit of these local stalwarts. His leonine features, his remarkable talent, his arguments fortified by recognised authority, his grasp of knotty questions, the facility with which he solved what seemed to be intricate problems, his fearlessness, his occasional richness of language, his great faculty of entertaining all moods and of drawing out all minds, his sovereign gift of making anybody pleased with himself and above all his strength of character, which manifested itself during the debate, all these combined made the "No. 10 Downing Street" of Bombay the pleasantest evening rendezvous to those who had the privilege of admission to that political conclave. The secret of his greatness which many attributed to education, lay within his personality implanted there by nature in the mysterious distribution of her gifts.

Rich Legacy

Thus when Pherozeshah was at the height of his glory, he was called away from amongst us in November, 1915, at the time when he had just crossed the span of years allotted to man by the Psalmists. Thirty years have passed since then and the world has undergone many changes and so has India. Amidst the impact of the catastrophic events of today the present generation is apt to forget the value of the services rendered by the pioneers who laid the foundation of our national awakening; but our heroe's services were so great and writ so large in the pages of history that generations yet unborn cannot but remember with gratitude what he had done for his city and his country.

If only those who are today reaping the benefit of his services should lay the tribute of a flower at the foot of his monument at Bori Bunder, a mountain of roses would rise beside the statue of him whom Lord Hardinge called "a great Parsee, a great citizen, a great patriot and a great Indian."

A GREAT STALWART

(By Nagindas T. Master, M.L.A.)

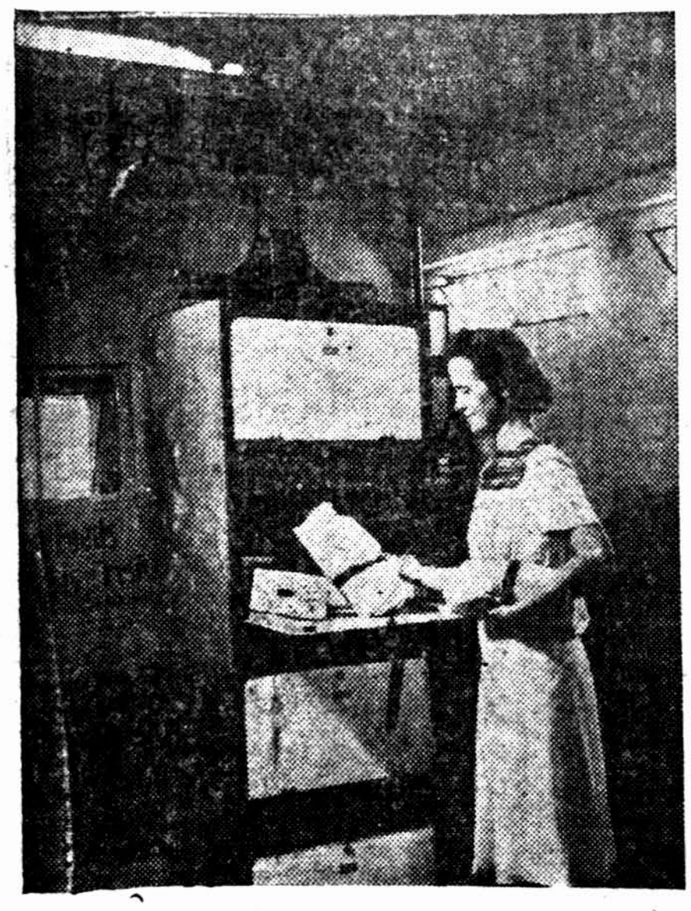
The Sir Phirozshah Mehta Centenary Celebrations commencing from the 4th of August in our city and outside India take our memories back to those days when leading Indians felt the urge for India's political advancement and ultimate freedom and founded, under the inspiration and guidance of that great Englishman, Mr. Hume, the Indian National Congress which is the oldest and the greatest political organisation we have in this country. Sir Phirozshah Mehta, Telang and Tyabji were the triumvirate in our city who gave the lead in this direction. His other contemporary, Mahadev Govind Ranade, also with others formed a group of Indians who felt keenly for India's political and economic advancement. Sir Phirozshah Mehta because of his great courage and absolute fearlessness, however, was in forefront and greatly influenced and awakened political consciousness amongst the people. He was one of the greatest Indian Liberals of those days and through because of the times in which he lived high might now be deemed by some as not having had sufficiently strong views in the light of the present world situation, it must be acknowledged that it is to him and to his colleagues that our great heritage in political sphere is traceable. It was these stalwarts that prepared the ground and laid the foundation on which the edifice of the present Congress stands and it has to be remembered that but for them and for the work they did, the present political advancement would not have been possible.

Sir Phirozshah Mehta also took immense itnerest in local self-government which he considered as the stepping-stone to peoples' own Government. He fought for the same and secured to our city that great institution, our Muicipal Corporaton, which has become a model for the rest of India. His love for municipal work was so great that he would put aside everything else, when municipal work demanded his attention. He is still remembered with grateful memories on all occasions of civic advancement. One striking feature of Sir Phirozshah Mehta's career was his keen intrest in young Indians whom he inspired to co-operate with him so that they could carry on his work after him. It is very important that leaders should train up their successors so that the work may not be stopped or may not have to be taken up anew, but could be carried on from where it had been left. Sir Phirozshah Mehta understood the importance of this and several great Indian Liberals derived inspiration and guidance from him. These are the outstanding features of that great Indian's career, and though it is difficult to foresee what view Sir Phirozshah Mehta if he were alive to-day might have taken of the present trend of Indian politics, there is no question that his contribution to the struggle of freedom would have been immense, and when we reach our goal and India wins complete freedom, Sir Phirozshah Mehta's name will find a very high and exalted place on the scroll of those who fought and worked for it.

Simla Air!

It was once proved upon sworn testimony in the Bombay High Court that a woman required 22 months for parturition in the air of the province of Kathiawar. It is not impossible gentlemen that the air of Simla may similarly necessitate a more than ordinarily long period of gestation to perfect even counsels of perfection and therefore we must possess our souls in more than ordinary patience lest any precipitate pressure may occasion a miscarriage.

(Pherozeshah in Congress Presidential address 26-12-1890).



The Hilders' specially built frozen food plant is like a sunny, comfortable store. Food lockers are brought up from the pit below by use of an electrical crane. In comfortable room temperatures, the housewife may select her dinner from the locker.

In the frozen food locker plant run by the Hilders in New Jersey, there is a counter where various kinds of frozen fruits and vegetables may be purchased wholesale and stored in the housewife's locker. Mrs. Hilder behind the counter.

MODERN U. S. FOOD LOCKER PLANT

Freezing is one of the newer methods of preserving food and one of the best from the standpoint of quality of the product. Whether this method or others are used, however, depends on the nature of the product to be preserved, the length of time it is to be kept, the way it is to be used, the relative cost, and the available facilities. A limiting wartime factor is the scarcity of equipment for freezing the product and holding it at the temperature required. During recent years there has been a great development in locker plants where consumers may rent space for storing foods.

Such a plant is the one run by Mr. and Mrs. Hubert Hilder which serves nearly 500 families in the U. S. Atlantic Coast community around Flemington, New Jersey. This ultra-modern food bank is like a safety deposit vault, with a series of lockers below floor level kept at zero (Fahrenheit) temperature. There are only 25 plants of this type in the United States. The other 6,000 plants, many of them converted warehouses, are walk-in arrangements where one needs to wear a heavy coat. The Hilders' specially built plant is like a sunny, comfortable store

Food Bank & Safe Deposit

A window almost the full length of the building gives a view of the processing room and office, with butcher equipment, block, scales etc. There is also a counter where various kinds of frozen fruits and vegetables may be purchased wholesale and stored in an individual locker, or the housewife may process her own products and have them quick-frozen and stored.

The floor is a checkerboard of trap doors, four lockers in a series under each. A customer opens the floor door over her locker, adjusts the electrical crane which lifts the frame holding her locker to convenient height above the floor, unlocks her storage compartment, takes out a week's supply of meats, vegetables and fruit, locks it again, then presses a button which lowers the lockers to the frozen pit below floor level and shuts the trap door.

The plant is equipped to process fresh killed meat through chilling, aging and butchering according to the owner's specifications, and quick-freezing at 20 degrees below zero. A modern smokeshouse processes hams and slabs of bacon.

Future Convenience Seen

The Hilders firmly believe city dwellers will have many of the advantages now enjoyed by country and small-town people within five or six years after the war. They predict that most new apartment houses will have storage lockers in the basement. Distributors will deliver frozen foods once a week in refrigerated trucks. Tenants can have the advantage of buying a quarter of beef or lamb wholesale and having it processed according to size and taste of families.

Several years ago, when the Hilders moved to a small farm in New Jersey, they found that getting the kind of meat they wanted was a problem. This led to an interest in a home freezer, which in turn led to the whole community project. With an architect who designed the plant, they investigated all types of locker business. Mr. Hilder gave up his job in New York and plunged into a thorough study of processing meats, even taking a college course. Mrs. Hilder was equally busy trying different commercially packed frozen foods and experimenting with methods of freezing vegetables and fruits. In 1941, with just seven of their 498 lockers rented, they opened their "Food Bank." Before the first year ended, they were 100 per cent rented.

A menu for dinner guests at the Hilders' might include: vegetable soup, cooked in the summer when vegetables were fresh, then frozen; prime ribs of beef, salce Barnaise, frozen in the summer when tarragon was fresh in the garden; asparagus, frozen in May from top quality of a neighbour's bumper crop; peas, bought commercially because they are graded, picked at perfect maturity and of correct variety for freezing; hot butter sauce from butter placed in the freezer when plentiful in the spring; fruit compote, including fresh pineapple cubes, strawberries, bluberries and raspberries—all frozen at the peak of individual seasons. The bread and cake served with the meal could also have been bought or baked several months before and kept in the zero locker until needed.

New Techniques Available

After the war, when new home freezers again become available, housewives will fall heir to many improved techniques developed in commercial food freezing It has been shown that no losses in nutritive value occur during the freezing and storage of frozen foods. Improper preliminary preparation, however, and faulty methods in cooking may result in impairing the content of vitamins C and and B-1 The effects of freezing on edible quality is less than with most other methods of preservation. The more rapidly the product can be frozen, the less the damage to the cell structure and the more closely the product when thawed and cooked will resemble the fresh material. Nearly all types of perishable foods may be preserved by freezing, although for some foods other methods are just as satisfactory and more economical.

Apples and pears, for instance, may be held in ordinary common or cold storage for many months. Properly frozen foods may be stored for periods from a few months to more than a year.

Farmers have need for a much greater volume of refrigeration than urban customers, not only for their own use but so that they may supply foods to cities in a much better quality than is now possible.

Form And Figures

Freezer units of the future will probably take two forms: a household refrigerator which has a built-in freezer storage compartment space to hold approximately a week's supply of frozen foods, with the user making use of central freezer storage plant for the storage of his food; and a freezer unit which will probably be more popular in the rural area, having two-compartment units, with one compartment a walk-in type for storage of foods and meats just above the freezing point and an additional compartment for the freezing and storage of a year's supply of food. On most farms, a cold-storage room having a capacity of 150-cubic feet or more is desirable. For the urban family a six-cubic-foot locker or cabinet will hold 90 to 100 pounds of food in glass jars or 175 to 200 pounds in rectangular containers.

The initial cost of home-freezing cabinets is rather high, but all things considered the cost of preservation by quick freezing is not excessive. It is least per unit for the person who uses his storage capacity to the maximum and who raises his own raw products or watches the market carefully in order to purchase at periods of low prices or seasonal abundance.

Two Incidents In Sir Pherozeshah's Life

Mr. Mangaldas Pakvasa

By Mangaldas Pakvasa.

Sir Pherozeshan Mehta was a leader of great eminence and in his days His was one of the most powerful personalities that dominated political life of the day. There are two main incidents in his fairly long and brilliant career which bring out all his abilities and qualities as a leader in a rare degree. One is what is known to few as the 'caucus', or his defeat at the hands of a movement engineered by Europeans and their Indian satellites to throw him out of the Corporation to which he had rendered yeoman's services uptill that time. It showed how the European influence in the City of Bombay was then powerful and how it could collect round itself Indians who to serve their own interests would stoop so low as to bring about the downfall of a great man like Sir Pherozeshah One feels that the European element in the civic life in Bombay has lost that influence but can it be said with certainty about the Indians who can be found always to oppose and denounce national leaders?

The second incident is with reference to what happened at the Surat Congress. There it was for the first time that the rising nationalism and the old conservatism in the Congress circles came to an open conflict. Sir Pherozeshah and his followers believed very strongly that the unwritten law of the Congress was that it was to be a legal and constitutional movement that it was to accept loyally the British Rule and the British connection was to be considered as a divine dispensation. We know now how the Congress has left behind the position and has reached the limit of uttering solemnly the words "Quit India". Even the Britishers have begun to think in terms of India as a dominion with power to be separate whenever the Indian so desired The Congress to-day stands for absolute independence.

The one question which is more than often asked is what would have been the position if Sir Pherozeshah Mehta had lived or if so and so had lived and fought either Mr. Tilak or Mr. Gandhi. These are theoretical questions and it is difficult to answer them. The one thing which is clear is that there is a change in the outlook of man in all the countries in the world and even the country of His Majesty the King Emperor of England is now being administered by a Labour Ministry.

The eternal credit of those leaders of the past is that they showed how fearlessness, strength of character and honesty in public life can raise the whole tone and morale of the people.

Times may change but in all conditions of life people with character, foresight, fearlessness, sincerity and honesty of purpose will always be in the forefront leading the mass of people towards the goal of freedom.

Pherozeshah Mehta And The Indian National Congress

(Continued from page 10)

policy. Reform of the administration alone was found inadequate to satisfy popular aspirations and the demand for Swaraj, as the goal of the Congress, attended with the boycott of British goods, was made in the annual sessions of the Congress from year to year.

GOAL OF THE CONGRESS

The smooth waters of the Congress were thus violently disturbed. Apprehending danger to the safety, security and integrity of the Congress, Pherozeshah Mehta endeavoured to stem the tide. He opposed the boycott of British goods and proposed the substitution of Swadeshi in its place. As to the goal of Swaraj, the new party in the Congress interpreted it in terms of severing the British connection. Pherozeshah Mehta could not go further than what was then known as "Colonial Self-Government." Presiding over the Sessions of the Congress in 1904, Sir Henry Cotton defined the goal in the following terms:

"The ideal of an Indian patriot is the "establishment of a federation of free and separate states, the United States of India, placed on a fraternal footing with the self-governing colonies, each with its own local autonomy, cemented together under the aegis of Great Britain." In the following year, Gokhale upheld the same view, declaring from the presidential chair at Benares that: "The goal of the Congress is that India should be governed in the interests of the Indians themselves and that, in course of time, a form of government should be attained in this country,—similar to what exists in the self-governing colonies of the British Empire."

In the succeeding year, Dadabhai Naoroji, presiding over the Calcutta Congress in 1909 expressed his view, in general terms that "self-government is the only and chief remedy. In self-government lies our hope, strength and greatness."

THE SURAT SPLIT

The struggle between the old party of Moderates and new party of Extremists within the Congress came to a head at Surat. Pherozeshah Mehta and Gokhale were convinced that the parting of the ways had become inevitable. As shown above, the issue of Swaraj centred on the question of severing the British connection, and on the methods of working towards the attainment of the goal. Pherozeshah Mehta was decidedly of the opinion, as he expressed it to Babu Bhupendra Nath Basu in 1908, that,

"It is no use shutting our eyes to the "fact within our own knowledge that some secretly cherish the idea of using the Congress for aims and methods not altogether constitutional. It is impossible to let any doubt exist as to the character of the Congress organisation and movement."

CREED AND CONSTITUTION OF THE CONGRESS

Frustrated in their design of capturing the Congress, the Extremist party resorted to violence and the sessions of the Congress had to be dissolved owing to outbreak of disturbances, without transacting any business. It was at this moment of crisis, that the love for and faith in the Congress of Pherozeshah Mehta was put to a severe test. He rose to the occasion. Within a couple of hours of the dissolution of the Congress, he called a meeting of the leaders of the Moderate party at his residence, and, relying on a precedent from English history, organised a Convention of all Congressmen of the Moderate School to be held next day. The Convention appointed a committee of 100 members to formulate a creed and constitution for the Congress. The Committee met at Allahabad during the following Easter holidays and the Congress of the succeeding year met at Madras on the basis of the new creed and constitution. Thus, we owe it to the courage, foresight and patriotism of Pherozeshah Mehta, that the Congress, which was extinguished by the Extremist party at Surat in 1907 was resuscitated and reincarnated at Madras in 1908. He resisted all attempts at the immediate reunion of the two parties within the Congress and wrote to Babu Bhupendra Nath in 1908.

"For God's sake, let us have done with all name and slobbery whine about unity where there is really none. Let each consistent body of views and principles have its own Congress in an honest and straight forward way and let God, i.e., truth and wisdom judge between us."

COMMUNAL ELECTORATES

The leaders of the Congress had made persistent efforts to eliminate all taint of communalism in their political institutions. When the proposals for introducing communal electorates for Muslims were first made in a circular-letter of the Government of India in 1907, in view of the Morley-Minto Reforms, Pherozeshah Mehta was quick to scent the danger in the path of self-government for India. He drafted, with the assistance of Sir H. A. Wadia, a long representation about these proposals, for the Bombay Presidency Association. The cogent reasoning and clear insight, with which he has met the plea of the Government in support of communal electorates, can be realised in the light of our bitter experience of subsequent years. Space forbids any attempt by me even to summarise his arguments here. I shall content myself with stating here the solution of the communal problem, proposed by him as follows:

"(a) That, the electorates should be fixed on a territorial basis.

(b) That, the requisite number of members should be assigned to each electorate,

(c) That, the proportion of Mahomedan and Hindu members should be determined according to local circumstances, whichever community— happens to be in a minority,

(d) That the members should be elected by the general body of voters."

If this solution of Joint electorates and reserved seats had been then adopted, all future trouble would have been saved. We can perceive the far-sighted wisdom of Pherozeshah Mehta in the dangers of the new policy which he foreshadowed and which have been experienced in later years, when he warned the Government that

"(1) These measures are bound to create in the public body feelings of race and religious animosities dangerous to peace and contentment; and in the legislature itself a spirit of faction which will mar the utility, and lower in public esteem the character of the Legislative Councils."

"(2) The new policy will encourage class ascendancy, and religious and sectarian partisanship with the inevitable result that Government itself will be distrusted by one party or another.

DECLARATION FOR SELF-GOVERNMENT

The Morley-Minto Reforms were found inadequate to satisfy the demand for self-government, which Congress had adopted as its goal since 1908. Lord Morley had assured the British Parliament that, he could not, as far as he could see, in the future, think of introducing even Parliamentary institutions in India. When the Great War broke out in September 1914, Pherozeshah had given his whole-hearted support to every war-measure. But at the same time he did not fail to receive that the War afforded a suitable opportunity for preparing the ground for implementing the objective of the Congress by obtaining a Declaration from the British Government that self-government should be the goal of British rule in India. When Gokhale returned from England in November, 1914 after interviewing the Secretary-of-State Lord Crewe and other British statesman Pherozeshah Mehta concerted with him a plan of action for shaping the policy of the Congress for moving further towards the attainment of its goal of self-government.

The first requisite was to secure unity in the Congress itself by reuniting the two parties of moderates and extremists within its fold. Mr. Tilak had returned from jaol a short while ago and steps for a reasonable compromise were considered. The Congress-organisation was to be strengthened by forming Congress Committees where they had ceased to exist.

The next step was to bring about concerted action between the Congress and the Muslim League and negotiations were secretly carried on with H. H. the Aga Khan and Mr. Jinnah. Mr. J. R. B. Jeejeebhoy, on page 482 of his collection of the speeches of Pherozeshah Mehta, adds a foot-note, stating that "only a few days before Mr. Gokhale's death, he, Sir Pherozeshah and H. H. the Aga Khan had arranged a meeting to discuss matters in connection with the holding of that year's session of the Muslim League in Bombay." In spite of Gokhale's death these negotiations resulted in holding the session of the Muslim League at Bombay 1915, with a view to co-ordinate its policy with that of the Congress. It was repeated next year at Lucknow.

To facilitate negotiations with Tilak's party and for other reasons, the sessions of the Congress was, by special efforts, arranged to be held at Bombay.

It was believed that Sir S. P. Sinha, who had been for some time the Law Member of the Government of India, would be the most suitable president for the sessions at Bombay and Pherozeshah Mehta brought personal pressure upon him to accept the office of president in 1915. The developments in the succeeding years with which Lord Sinha was intimately associated justified the wisdom of the choice.

Although Gokhale died in February, 1915, and Pherozeshah Mehta passed away in November 1915 —the plan as devised by them was carried out by their colleagues. It was further helped by the activities of the Home Rule Leagues of Tilak and Mrs. Besant in 1916 and what is known as the Montagu Declaration was made in Parliament in August 1917.

OPTIMISM OF PHEROZESHAH MEHTA

Pherozeshah Mehta firmly believed in the efficacy of constitutional agitation. In his presidential address at Calcutta in 1906 Dadabhai Naoroji has dealt at some length with the necessity of such agitation, both in India and England. If it did not bring forth adequate results, both these patriots held that the failure was due to our lack of carrying on such agitation with the necessary vigour and intensity. It is equally true that it depends for its success upon the degree of response it evokes from the British Government. Pherozeshah Mehta, like the other great leaders of the Congress, was regarded by the Government as the "personification of a dangerous demagogue." As H.H. the Aga Khan observes, in his Foreword to Mody's biography.

"Had the principles and the hopes with which in the Eighties, Pherozeshah Mehta took his stand on Indian aspirations been even gradually realised, had they even received a fair and unprejudiced consideration, the later and final estrangement of Tilak and Gandhi would probably never "have taken place."

In spite of set-backs and disappointments, Pherozeshah Mehta never lost hope nor succumbed to a sense of frustration and despair. His motto was "learn to labour and to wait." He believed that success was only the last of a series of failures. He was never daunted by opposition, nor despaired if the results of our activity did not appear in any particular reform or political change. To cheer our hearts and brace our energies, he repeated the beautiful lines of the poet.

"For while the tired waves, vainly breaking
"Seemed here no painful inch to gain
"Far back, through creeks and inlets making,
"Comes silent, flooding in, the main."

ANECDOTES OF SIR P. M. MEHTA

By T. V. Parvate

At the age of seven, Pherozeshah was taken seriously ill. For days together, he lay unconscious and his life was despaired of. Dr. Bhau Daji, the celebrated physician attributed the peculiar nature of the child's malady to his quick and restless brain. He made an observation then which turned out to be a prophecy, that if he recovered he would turn out to be a great man. His uncle Sorabji saw him in a cradle soon after his birth and examining his forehead told his fortune the same day to the same effect.

PUSHED OUT OF FLOWER GARDEN?

As told in Sir Pherozeshah's biography by H. P. Mody, the child did recover after an agonising suspense. He suddenly woke up one day, bitterly crying. When asked for the reason, he related, in the midst of sobs, that he had seen his grandmother in a garden full of flowers and that she had given him push and turned him out. The old folks in the Mehta family regarded it as a happy omen and from that time the child began to recover and soon regained health.

BAD STUDENT OF FRENCH

While in England, Pherozeshah devoted some time to the study of French, in the midst of legal studies. He picked up a fair acquaintance with that language very soon. He read a good deal of French literature of the period of the Revolution and became even a warmer admirer of Mirabeau and other great actors in that wonderful drama from history than he was when he had read Burke. He retained his fondness for French even after return to India to such an extent that he used to give lessons in French to some of his friends, when briefs were by no means plentiful. As professional and public engagements began to multiply, he lost familiarity with the language and during his subsequent visits to Europe, he never ventured to speak it.

PLAYING AT "CHOWPAT" IN ENGLAND

For his contemporaries in England, there were Jamshetji Tata, Lal Mohun Ghose, Romesh Chandra Banerji and Badruddin Tyabji all of whom left their impress on India's public life of later days. For their elder adviser, there was Dadabhoy Nowroji. Many of these friends used to gravitate at the house of Mr. and Mrs. D. D. Cama on Sundays to enjoy Parsi food and play at "Chowpat", with dice or cowries. In Marathi, this play is known as "Songtya".

Very few Gujarati or Mahratta or Parsi boys and girls know about this game now. Pherozeshah was an adept at this game, in which the fun is apt to become faster and more furious, the more heavily one bangs the board with the pieces. So great were the excitement and noise round the "Chowpat" board that Mr. Cama's neighbour one day inquired why it was that he was always engaged on Sundays in hanging pictures! He might as well have asked Mr. Cama why he gave his Indian guests a regular beating on Sundays!

FIRST COUNCIL WALK-OUT

Walking out of legislative chambers out of protest is by no means a phenomenon of our own times, nor is it confined to Swarajists or non-co-operating Congressmen. Sir Pherozeshah, Sir Bhalchandra Krishna, Sir Gokuldas Parekh and Messrs. Daji Abaji Khare and Gopal Krishna Gokhale staged the first walk-out in the Bombay Legislative Council, led by Sir P. M. Mehta in the year 1900. The occasion was on amendment of the Land Revenue Bill, whereby under the guise of protecting the ryot from the moneylender Government sought to do away with the ryot's right of alienation of land held by him and arm the Executive with powers to grant land forfeited to the crown on such terms and for such periods as the collector might prescribe. Tilak's writings in the "Kesari" of this period show that he had fully backed Sir P. M. Mehta and his colleagues. The "Times of India" edited by Lovat Frazer in those days wrote as venomously about Mehta and his band as it did about Swarajists led by Das and Nehru.

"ADVOCATE" BEFORE "CHRONICLE."

The founding of the "Bombay Chronicle" to propagate the Indian National Congress viewpoint was not the only venture of the late Sir Pherozeshah in the journalistic field. The Ilbert Bill agitation had quickened political life in the country and Bombay's triumvirate of those days Tyabji, Telang and Pherozeshah were carrying on a ceaseless campaign for reforms in every branch of administration. But they were greatly handicapped for want of a newspaper which would support their policy and principles through thick and thin. The "Times of India" was frankly anti-Indian and the "Bombay Gazette" sympathetic but half-hearted.

So, Pherozeshah in partnership with Mr. Jehangir Murzban undertook in 1888 to resuscitate the "Advocate of India", which was languishing at the time. Dr. Blaney controlled it then. Soon it came under Pherozeshah's control. It started off well. Dinshaw Wacha's ready pen was there to aid Pherozeshah. But within a year it passed out of his hands on account of differences with his partner. Later under Mr. Gordon, it became an instrument of opposition to Pherozeshah!

SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY OF POONA

"POONA—A SOCIO-ECONOMIC SURVEY—Part I Economic. By Principal D. R. Gadgil, Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics Publication No. 12. 300 pages. Price Rs. 15 or 30s.

Under the able and active direction of Principal Gadgil, the Gokhale Institute of Politics and Economics has by now produced a considerable volume of research work of economic and social importance. This publication presents the results of a Survey of Poona City and Suburban area carried out with a view to studying the economic and social condition of the people resident therein. Urban Surveys constitute a new line of investigation undertaken by the Gokhale Institute and are calculated to prove extremely instructive to city fathers in planning the improvement of the lot of people living in municipal areas. Principal Gadgil and his assistants have done their job with the thoroughness, characteristic of all their work. We have here a brief history of the growth of Poona and all relevant statistics relating to the economic aspect of the lives of its population. Interesting information is given about the sex-ratio and age composition, size and income of families, education and housing. Then follow the results of a census of occupations and industries and an account of trade and transport organisation. These chapters and those dealing with the earnings of the people, make very instructive reading. The publication not only presents a mass of tabulated statistics but offers economic interpretations of theme which are highly suggestive and stimulating. Principal Gadgil has adopted for his investigation the simple method which has been found to be the most suitable and practicable for economic and social surveys of large areas. His work was facilitated by the financial assistance of the municipal authorities and the co-operation of the public which is an essential factor in such enquiries.

V. G. K.

THE VICTORIA CROSS

(INDIAN ARMY AWARDS), Printed by the Civil and Military Gazette, Ltd., Lahore.

This little booklet records, graphically, the exploits of men and officers, both Indian and British, of the Indian Army, who, by their heroism in the present war, won the Victoria Cross.

We are given little pen-pictures describing the incidents that led to the awards and mentioning the particular campaigns wherein they were won. Each description is accompanied by a photograph of the recipient Altogether, there were 21 such awards upto February 1945—starting with 2/Lt. Bhagat, the first Indian V. C. (July, 1941).

One thing, above all, we learn from this booklet: That courage and nobility are not the monopoly of any particular race or nation, caste, class or creed, but the proud possession of many a man, brought forth for the service of humanity when most needed—and often written in blood.

THE LAND OF THE LAMAS

"TIBET" BY DAVID MACDONALD. 32 pp. with map. As 6. (Oxford University Pamphlets on Indian Affairs, No. 30). This is a very interesting study and exposition of "The Forbidden Land", where the Dalai Lama wields supreme temporal and spiritual sovereignty, assisted by a Prime Minister and Council. The author has dwelt in Tibet for a number of years, under official capacity and has ably explained in this pamphlet, the history, geography, the people, the religion, the government, the trade and industries and the art, language and literature of Tibet.

Wool is the largest single item of export. It is sent to fairs held at Kalimpong, where it is bartered for barley, tea and other commodities. Cloth weaving and carpet making are the chief household industries. Silversmiths and goldsmiths show great skill in their craft. The people are generally speaking cheerful and happy-go-lucky. Women enjoy good status and help their men-folk both in and outside the home. The state religion is Buddhism, but the people are non-vegetarians. Their marriage customs resemble those of Hindus and their language and literature bear traces of Sanskrit. One should know one's neighbour. Tibet is worth knowing in the pages of this fascinating booklet.

N. H. P.

HEIL AND HELL

NATIONAL CULTURES, NAZISM AND THE CHURCH, by Andrew J. Krzesinski, Ph. D., S.T.D., (Pp. 128, dol 1.75) Bruce Humphries, Inc. Boston. This book is written from the Christian and mainly from the Roman Catholic standpoint. It has received the imprimatur of the Archbishop, New York. The author explains at length the implications of Nazism and holds it forth as an object lesson of what human beings can be reduced to, when they are deprived of religion. When religion goes out, bigotry, hatred, and cruelty enter.

From this point of view, the author considers the ideology of Nazism, Nazi-Nationalism and the Church, religion and Nazism, the German Church and struggle against Christianity, and racialism as applied to foreign policy of the Reich. The book will prove of interest to those desiring to study the mentality underlying Nazism.

N. H. P.

DIAGNOSIS OF INDIA'S ECONOMIC ILLS

"What is Wrong with Indian Economic Life: "By Dr. V. K. R. V. Rao —Vora and Co., Publishers Ltd. Bombay, Second Edition. Price Re. 1-4.

This booklet reproduces the talks which Dr. Rao gave on the Bombay Radio on the subject of the deficiencies and defects of India's national economy and the remedies that have to be applied to correct them. The talks were intended for laymen and Dr. Rao has presented the problem in a simple and non-technical manner. He has analysed the position of agriculture and large and small industries and demonstrated how these suffer from inefficiency which is due to a number of causes which he is anxious to remove. He lays great stress on the necessity of State initiative and assistance as well as national planning for the achievement of the object in view which is increased production of weather and its just distribution.

V. G. K.

BOOKS AND THEIR AUTHORS

NEW SEARCHLIGHT ON VEDIC ARYANS

By S. M. Zaqui Published by Shah & Co., Publishers & Booksellers, Hakim Wasi Road, Agra, U.P. 9 x 5 1/2. Pp. 14. Price annas 8.

The author possesses a sound knowledge of several Oriental languages and is also a student of Western literature. The little brochure is the result of a very deep study on his part and, as Sir Abdul Qadir says in his foreword, "it opens a new vista of speculation as to the origin of the Vedic Aryans." He is at variance with Mr. Tilak's Arctic home theory of the Aryans and says that "latest discoveries tell a different tale." He quotes various authorities on the subject and avers that "a highly civilised people came to India not from Central Asia but from Western Asia and entered India through the Sind valley."

He shows on the strength of various excerpts that "Aryans and Dravidians were both foreigners in India; both of them came from the West and followed almost identical routes of migration. "Relying on Dr. Pran Nath's observations, the writer infers that "the Hindus of to-day are the Egyptians of yesterday." He also makes an interesting claim and it is that "Brahma was no other than Abraham of Ibrahim." On the whole, the pamphlet makes a very interesting reading and the various theories put forward by him are thought-provoking indeed. He promises to write a detailed book on the subject "on a more suitable occasion."

Z. A. BARNI.

My dear Sisters & Brothers,

We cannot imagine the condition of poor boys in our country while living in comfortable houses which our parents have provided for us, writes Brother N. M. Cooper (14 years), of Madras.

It is shameful to think, he continues, that we do not contribute anything towards the welfare of our own brethren, who through dire need of food become more ar less a nuisance to the city instead of being goo citizens.

In many a street of Calcutta you may see boys of our age roaming about with only a rag to cover them, and sometimes carrying with themselves some of the most horrible diseases which would spread to others immediately, he deplores.

Can we imagine the life of one of these miserable urchins, asks Cooper. When they get up every morning, just another miserable day is before them, for as usual they have to fill up their bellies by any means, desirable on undesirable. Though India in particular has been renowned from ages for the munificence of its charities, yet more than 50 per cent of its pouplation is living in a miserable condition.

It is learnt, he says, that there are certain Children's Homes where some of the children of the above type are kept and looked after. The destitutes in these 'homes' are given shelter, food and clothing. In a home like that at Calcutta a soap industry has been started which has, in the course of five years, been expanded considerably. Other occupations such as weaving, spinning, farming, etc., also could be pursued.

No doubt, hundreds of lives have been saved by a few such voluntary organisations and its workers, admits Cooper. And he hopes that in the coming generation, India will have many such self-sacrificing persons.

* * *

Brother Babulal Shivlal Shah (? Years), Standard VI, Vakharia P. J. High School, Kalol, N.G., has sent the following short story for publication on "The Sister's Love":—

A gentleman had a son and a daughter whose names were Kishore and Kamala respectively. They loved each other.

Once, when Kishore was six years old, he got a terrible fever, by which he lost his strength and became very weak.

His father got the boy examined by a Doctor who said, "The boy requires fresh human blood to be injected into him. If this cannot be done, his case is hopeless.

All Kishore's relatives began to look at each other, but no one dared to offer his blood for the purpose.

Kamala was out at the time. When she entered the room where all were sitting, she found everyone wearing a sad face. She approached her father, and asked him, "What has happened, daddy?"

The father replied, "The Doctor says that Kishore should be given fresh human blood, otherwise we may lose him."

"Oh, that is not a matter to worry about," Kamala spoke aloud. She extended her arm towards the Doctor, and said, "Hurry up", Sir, take as much blood from me as you like and cure my brother as early as possible."

All present were astonished at her behaviour. The Doctor gently took out blood from Kamala's arm with his medical instrument, and injected it into the boy's arm, thus mixing her blood with his.

After about a week Kishore got alright, and was thereafter often seen playing with his loving little sister. He had great admiration for her, and almost always acceded to her small wishes and requests.

Shri Jairamdas Daulatram, ex-General Secretary of the Indian National Congress, met the Khar Balkan-ji-Bari boys and girls, and had a chat with them. after a few items of entertainment were presented by the children. He advised them never to fear anybody or anything, and to try and grow up as better citizens of this country.

Delhi and New Delhi Balkan-ji-Bari Workers met Shri B. G. Kher, Chairman, All-India Board of Directors of the Balkan-ji-Bari, during his recent visit to that place. Poona Balkan-ji-Bari Children and workers met Lady Monijeh R. Masani, Vice-President, Bombay Provincial Balkan-ji-Bari.

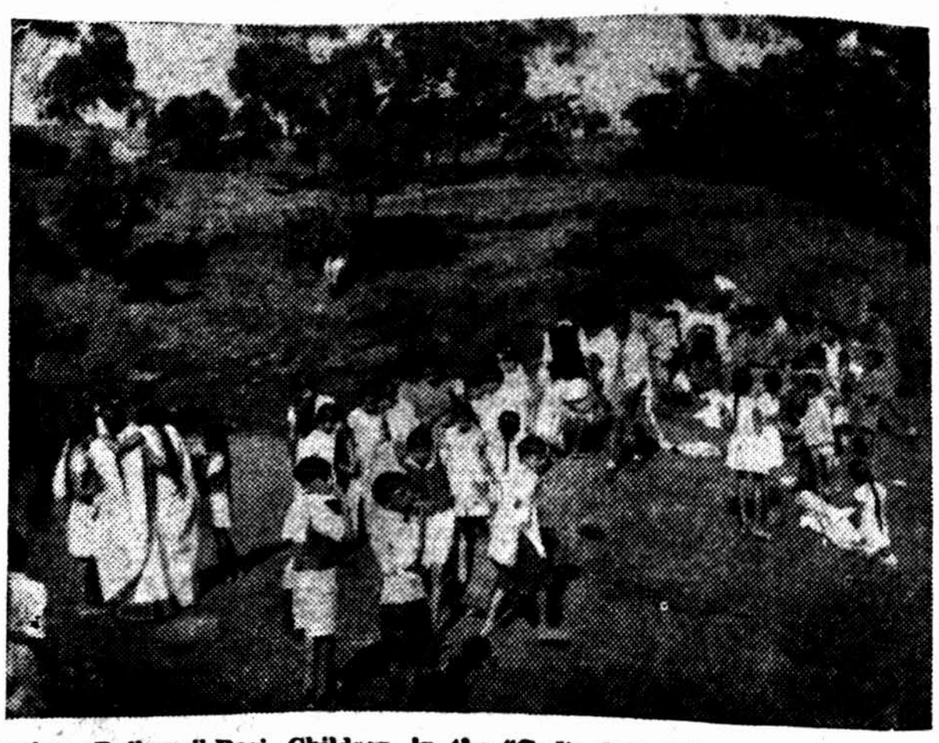
Brother Shewak Bhojraj presented a book on behalf of the children of the Balkan-ji-Bari to Shri B. G. Horniman, Editor, "Bombay Sentinel", on the occasion of his Golden Jubilee. Shri Rasiklal F. Shah, Joint Secretary, B. P. Balkan-ji-Bari, garlanded the statue of Sir Pherozeshah Mehta at Bori Bunder, at the time of his centenary celebrations.

Any boys and girls are welcome to the great brotherhood of Balkan-ji-Bari—The All-India Children's Association. Please send for its full particulars and enrolment forms, from Dada—"Gulistan", Khar—Bombay 21, mentioning your full name and address and age, and enclosing nine pies stamps for postage.

All Good Wishes from
your loving
Dada

"Gulistan"
Khar - Bombay 21

Cawnpore Balkan-ji-Bari Boys and Girls of the Sisamall Association.



Bombay Balkan-ji-Bari Children in the "God's Out-of-doors" at Amarnath.

Regd. No. B. 1065

The Bombay Chronicle

Editor: Syed Abdullah Brelvi

Price 2 Annas

Founder: Pherozeshah Mehta

VOL. XXXIII NO. 155 D. II BOMBAY: MONDAY, JULY 2, 1945

FORCES INVADE IN

Pherozeshah's Last Gift To The Nation

The following account of the foundation of the "Bombay Chronicle", is culled from the article contributed by Mr. D. G. Dalvi to the Silver Jubilee number of this journal.

Mehta and many other prominent citizens of Bombay had long contemplated starting a nationalist daily in Bombay but the plans never passed the blueprint stage. But this indecision and vacillation did not last long and the folly of Anglo-India in launching a movement known as 'caucus' against Sir Pherozeshah gave the requisite impetus for bringing the idea to fruition. Owing to long and signal service to his country and in particular to the city of Bombay Sir Pherozeshah reached a unique position in the city of Bombay.

His recent opposition in the Bombay Municipal Corporation to voting an address to Lord Curzon, and to the introduction of standard time in the city had enraged the English officials and when fresh general elections to the Corporation arrived three high officers of the Government, Mr. Harrison, the Accountant-General, Mr. Hatch, the Collector of Bombay and Mr. Gell, the Commissioner of Police, combined to issue a ticket so as to defeat Sir Pherozeshah. Mr. Lovat Fraser, the editor of the "Times of India", joined this group and by his powerful pen and through the agency of his influential journal carried on a virulent campaign against Sir Pherozeshah. The need of a nationalist daily was badly felt at this juncture for repelling the venomous attacks of the "Times of India".

The 'caucus' storm lasted several months before and after the general elections, with the aftermath of a protracted enquiry of an election petition in the Small Causes Court and during this long period popular resentment against the "Times of India" rose to white heat. I have a vivid recollection of the mammoth meeting at Madhav Baug presided over by the Hon'ble Mr. G. K. Gokhale for protesting against the conduct of the officials.

At this meeting the cry for boycott of the "Times of India" was vociferously raised and one orator holding the issue of 'Times' in his hand tore it to shreds while announcing the boycott of the journal and urging the need of an Indian organ of nationalist viens instead.

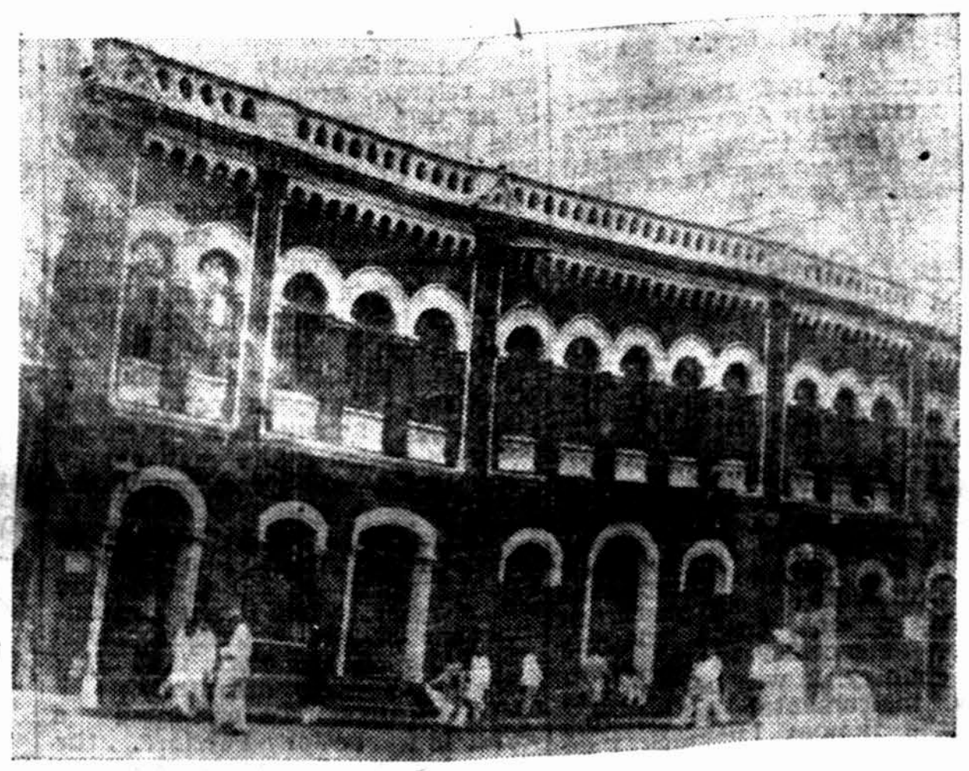
Though the idea of starting a nationalist daily English journal was mooted with a flourish of triumphets a period of several years elapsed before the idea actually materialised. A company was floated with a strong body of directors with Sir Pherozeshah Mehta as its chairman but enough funds could not be collected. After the introduction of the Morley-Minto reforms, Sir P. M. Mehta realised that the reforms had given a fresh impetus to national effort he took in hand the scheme for the daily newspaper, collected the necessary balance of the capital and launched the "Bombay Chronicle" into existence in March 1913.

"In setting the details of the "Bombay Chronicle" Sir Pherozeshah devoted personal attention to every item and the splendid success of the journal in its first two years is in no small measure due to the tact, weight and dignity which he lent to the policy and conduct of the journal."

"The choice of the first editor occupied his mind for a long time. He was in communication with Mr. S. K. Ratcliffe, the talented editor of "The Statesman" of Calcutta. If the newspaper had been started a couple of years earlier it is probable that Mr. Ratcliffe who was then retiring from the 'Statesman' would have accepted the responsibility of editing the journal.

Mr. Ratcliffe had recommended him to take up Mr. Horniman who was his assistant on the staff of the "Statesman". Meanwhile Sir Pherozeshah tried to persuade. Mr. C. Y. Chintamani, the editor of the "Leader" to take up the responsibility. Failing Mr. Chintamani he thought of Mr. Horniman. But he was a dark horse.

But finally after two interviews Mr. Horniman was selected and proved a winner.



(Left) Greaves Cotton Building, the birth place of the Bombay Chronicle, on Meadows Street, Fort, Bombay. The first issue of the paper was published on March 3, 1913. On the right is seen the present home of the "Chronicle"—Red Building on Parsi Bazar Street. Its two sister papers "The Bombay Sentinel" edited by Mr. B. G. Horniman, and the "Mumbai Samachar" (Gujerati daily) are also published there.

Pherozeshah's Message To The Parsis

BY M. J. G.

Much will be said by many, that are competent to say it, about Pherozeshah Mehta. At a time, when communalism is rampant, and some sidelights, (one may not call them highlights), in the community to which Pherozeshah belonged, and which, owing to its numbers, would be obviously worse off on representation on a communal basis, also clamour for such detrimental representation, it will be meet to quote Pherozeshah's words to them, for it seems as if he said these words with a prophetic vision. Here they are, from his address as the President of the Congress of 1890.

"To my mind a Parsi is a better and truer Parsi, as a Mahomedan or a Hindu is a better and truer Mahomedan or Hindu, the more he is attached to the land that gave him birth, the more he is bound in brotherly relations and affection to all the children of the soil, the more he recognises the fraternity of all the native communities in the country, and the immutable bond, which binds them together in the pursuit of common aims and objects under a common Government. Is it possible to imagine that Dadabhai, for instance, true Parsi that he is, is anything but an Indian, living and working all his life for India, with the true and tender loyalty of a son?

Can any one doubt, if I may be allowed to take another illustration, that Sir Syed Ahmad Khan was greater and nobler, when he was devoting the great energies and talents with which he was endowed—if for the benefit of the Mahomedans in particular—for the benefit of all Indians in general than when, as of late, he was preaching a gospel of selfishness and isolation? The birthright, therefore, gentlemen, which the Parsis thus possess of so indefisible and glorious a charter, they have refused and WILL ALWAYS REFUSE to sell for any mess of pottage, however fragrant and tempting. More especially, therefore, as an Indian, it is that I return to you my grateful thanks for the honour you have done to me."

Let the Parsis let these words, said about them by Pherozeshah, by whom they swear, whenever any political question of service to the Motherland arises, sink deep into their minds and hearts. Mark the words: "They have refused and WILL ALWAYS REFUSE" Need anything more be said?

A Personal Tribute And Testament

(Continued From Page 4)

ing to kiss on the morrow by reason of his patriotism in betraying his party and joining the Tories. But political shrewdness is not, always and in the long run, necessarily political wisdom or statesmanship. The Rhine, which, even according to Lord Baldwin, was the frontier of Britain, Austria, Czechoslovakia, Danzig, all were sacrificed by the Tories under the false guise of peace and appeasement; when their whole policy in this respect was a deliberate invitation to Hitler to march East and lay the Bolshevik bogie, once and for all while Britain smiled and grew rich. The result actually was the present Great War and the holocast of millions of peoples in countries including Great Britain, to whom, as distinguished from the Tory party and Government, homage is justly due for all the great qualities they displayed. Subhas Bose apart, no one in India was ever taken in by the Japanese 'Co-prosperity sphere.' Rape and rapine and misery in China were too recent To use the words of Mr. Vernon Bartlett, M.P., we had no reason "to exchange the devil we know for the devil we did not know.' We all hope for the victory of China and its emergence as a Great Power, with a settlement of its internal differences and the sooner the better.

The Grapes Of Wrath

But India's own sacrifices in men and in money in the last Great War were rewarded by Reverse Councils, Rowlatt Bills and Jallianwalla Bagh. What will be the sequel to India of the defeat of Japan? Agreement among four hundred millions as to Pakistan or Hindustan as an indispensable condition and preliminary to Swaraj will deceive no one. India will not be Ireland on a larger scale as the British Imperialist fondly hopes.

The wheels of God and of History grind slowly but inexorably. All the world over is a formidable swing to the Left. It may well be that the Russian Revolution and the Chinese Revolution will be followed by an Indian Revolution of which Mahatma Gandhi is but the Tolstoy and the Lenins and the Stalins are still unknown. In that case history will repeat itself. Stalin will have triumphed, not the British Imperialist and Churchill, much less Pakistan—this, I think, would have been the forecast of Pherozeshah

As Gokhale said, Pherozeshah was to a great extent a happy combination of the independence and strength of character of Mandlik, the lucidity and culture of Telang, and the originality and wide grasp of Ranade. The Congress has gained enormously in quantity but—unhappily for the country—not proportionally in quality. Among the leaders present and future no Pherozeshahs are visible

The LAST PAGE

Conducted by CHRONICLER

August is a month hallowed in the history of Indian nationalism. Both sad and inspiring memories are associated with it.

On August 1, 1920, died the great Lokmanya Bal Gangadhar Tilak, and since then this day has been observed not only as an anniversary of the great patriot but as an occasion to renew our resolve to march in the Lokmanya's footsteps—towards the goal of FREEDOM.

August 4 of this year marks the hundredth anniversary of the birth of that partriarch of our early patriots, Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, the founder of "The Bombay Chronicle."

On August 4, 1914, began the first World War.

On August 7, 1905, began the agitation against the partition of Bengal.

On August 7, 1941, India lost her greatest poet and patriot, Rabindranath Tagore.

On August 8, 1912, the All India Congress Committee passed the historic "Quit India" resolution.

On August 9, 1942, the Government arrested the Congress leaders and initiated (what Gandhiji later described as) a reign of "leonine violence."

*

Memory Of Tilak

It was Tilak who gave the slogan, "SWARAJ IS MY BIRTHRIGHT". It was Tilak who laid down the three great principles of the Indian nationalist movement —SWARAJ, SWADESHI, and BOYCOTT. It was Tilak who gave a radical orientation to the Congress ideology and a mass basis to its organisation. It was Tilak who, by his repeated imprisonments (including six years in Mandalay prison), left a glowing tradition of sacrifice in the cause of the country. It was he who was mainly instrumental in bringing about the famous Lucknow Pact of 1916 between the Hindus and Muslims.

It is ironical that today Hindu Mahasabhites and Moderates (even those who, like Khare and Jamnadas, are serving the Government) dare to claim Tilak as their own. It is equally ironical that Tilak's paper, KESARI, has become a mouthpiece of the anti-Congress Mahasabhites and rabid Hindu communalists. One wonders if KESARI would dare publish the memorable speech delivered by the Lokmanya at Lucknow in the course of which he had said:—

"It has been said by some that we Hindus have yielded too much to our Muslim brethren. I say that we could not have yielded too much....I would not care if the rights of self-government are granted to the Muslim community only, so long as they are granted to Indians. And so if you believe as I do that "Swaraj is our birthright then it is very important then you stand on this plat form united, united in race, united in religion, and united as regards all shades of different political opinions."

*

Pherozeshah Mehta And Congress

The Pherozeshah Mehta anniversary provides a link of memory with the first session of the Congress 60 years ago in Bombay on December 28, 1885, in the Hall of the Gokuldas Tejpal Sanskrit College (near the Gowalia Tank Maidan where the August 1942 session of the A.I.C.C. was held).

To-day, when communalists and imperialists are combining to reduce the Indian National Congress to the status of a organisation of caste Hindus, it is worth while to recall that from the beginning it was nurtured by non-Hindus as well as Hindus—by Parsees like Dadabhoy Naoroji and Sir Pherozeshah Mehta, Muslims like Badruddin Tyebji, Christians like W. C. Bannerjee and K. C. Banerjee.

Sir Pherozeshah presided over the sixth session of the Congress held in 1890. His address was important because of the sharp criticism it contained of Lord Salisbury's view that "Government by representation did not fit Eastern traditions or Eastern minds." He gave a clear exposition of the Congress role at that time when he said that "the Congress was, indeed, not the voice of the masses, but it was the duty of their educated compatriots to interpret their grievance, and offer suggestions for their redress."

He was to have presided over the Congress again in 1909 (the 24th session held in Lahore) but six days before the session he declined the honour "for certain unknown reasons," and Pandit Malaviya was elected in his place. It is possible that he found the new rebellious atmosphere of the Congress (since the advent of radicals like Tilak) uncongenial for his moderate and strictly constitutionalist temperament.

*

Prophetic Words

Pherozeshah Mehta was indeed, a moderate and was one of those who unsuccessfully tried to stem the advancing radical tide at the Surat Congress in 1907. But he was a patriot to the core and some of his utterances contain almost prophetic exhortations to the nation on issues that are vital and relevant even in 1945. As early as 1873 he warned and foretold the crisis not only of 1914-18 but also of 1939-45

INDIA & WAR: "India maintained by England by the power of her armies would be heavy burden on her in case of her being involved in European complications likely to be caused by the contests, rivalries and ambitions of other European powers. She may find herself in a predicament in which India may simply hang like a mill-stone round her neck."

INDIA & AMERICA: Nor was he oblivious of the role America might play—in 1944-45?—and said "we must not forget the contingency of the American powers appearing on the scene and complicating matters dreadfully."

TO PARSIS: "To my mind a Parsi is a better Parsi.... the more he is attached to the land that gave him birth."

PAKISTAN: He knew where the Communal Electorates will lead to when he said in 1908: "The measures are bound to create in the public body feelings of race and religious animosities dangerous to peace and contentment.... an attempt impolitic enough to be perilous."

IS CONGRESS A CASTE HINDU ORGANISATION? Sir Pherozeshah gave a reply to Lord Wavell many, many years ago when he declared: "The members of the Congress meet together as men on a common basis of nationality being citizens of one country, subjects of one power, amenable to one code of laws issued by one authority, influenced for weal or woe by one system of administration, urged by like impulses to secure like rights and to be relieved of like burdens."

*

"Puzzling Simplicity"

Doctor Syed Abid Husain, Professor at the Jamia Millia Islamia (National Muslim University), Delhi, a friend of Gandhiji and the translator of the Mahatma's autobiography into Urdu, contributes an excellent and thought provoking article on the "PUZZLING SIMPLICITY" of Mahatma Gandhi to the latest issue of INDIA, the monthly review published from Calcutta. Says he:

"There was a certain taster so proficient in his art that he could tell blind-folded all the innumerable varieties of spirit, liquors and wines from one another and could even find out the ingredients of every cocktail merely by tasting a few drops. Once a friend of his played him a trick by offering him a mysterious liquid and challenging him to identify it. He tried his best but could not for the life of him tell the name of the liquid. The poor fellow had never tasted water before.

"The difficulty, which the sophisticated Americans, Europeans and even Indians find in understanding the personality of Gandhiji, is of a like nature. They are accustomed to solve knotty problems of psychoanalysis in their studies of human character. When they have to deal with a simple nature without any complexes, they are confused..... They try all sorts of keys to open that which was never locked...."

Simplicity, according to Dr. Abid Husain, can be of two kinds—"the simplicity of naivette, monotony and blissful ignorance such as we find in a pastoral song, on the other side, the simplicity of maturity, harmony and restraint which is a characteristic of classical poetry." Gandhiji's simplicity belong to the latter variety That is why it is misunderstood both by the sophisticated moderns and the old-fashioned people. Doctor Abid Husain's conclusion ought to be pondered by Gandhiji's foreign and Indian critics, for it is the key to the understanding of the man who IS India!

"....the great preoccupation of Gandhiji is the search of truth. If we realise this one thing fully many apparent inconsistencies and contradictions in Gandhiji's words and actions will automatically disappear. Gandhiji does not claim to be in 'possession' of truth but is devoting all his energy to its attainment'. He has not got a ready-made stock of the varieties of life, which he can distribute among others. He has to search for them in the company of his fellow-men and with their help....Gandhiji's life is not the cooked evidence of a false witness, which appears to be perfectly simple and consistent, but breaks down under the cross-examination of a clever lawyer. It is the halting and hesitating statement of a truthful witness, which sounds complicated and incoherent but possesses the inner unity and simplicity of truth and the firmness, which no cross-examination can ever shake.

"Unless the position I have tried to explain in this article is generally realised, the political problem of India cannot be solved. Gandhiji exercises a tremendous influence over India. This influence is a great power for peace which we should value above all things in these troubled times....But it is not possible to negotiate with Gandhiji on a purely political or diplomatic plane. One must establish cordial relations with him, trust him and be trusted by him. In order to achieve this, his opponents should realise the classical simplicity of his character, should expel all doubts from their minds and constantly remember that Gandhiji is what he gives himself out to be, he means what he says and as long as there is life in him, he will do what he promises to do."

*

"Quisling" Parade!

Writing about the Nationalist Muslims, DAWN, the Muslim League organ (founded by Mr. Jinnah), wrote:

"One Quisling does not make an Indian summer."

So, we have decided, from time to time, to "expose" the activities of this "one Quisling" who does not make an Indian summer—but who perhaps makes it a dismal winter for the DAWN and those whom it represents! Here are the last week's activities of the "Quislings"—as reported in the Press:—

KHAN ABDUL GHAFFAR KHAN, the "Frontier Gandhi", condemns the shabby treatment meted out to him by the Unionist regime of Punjab.

DR. KHAN SAHIB, Congress Premier of N.W.F.P., issues a statement protesting against the Punjab ban on his distinguished brother and leader.

MAULANA ABUL KALAM AZAD arrives at Rawalpindi and is received, among others, by

MIAN IFTIKHARUDDIN, President of the Punjab Congress,

MR. AHMAD YAR KHAN, Leader of the National Conference Party in the Kashmir State Assembly, and

MAULANA MOHD. YASIN, President of the Punjab Congress Workers Assembly.

The Congress President proceeds to Kashmir and at Tangmarg is received by SHAIKH MOHD. ABDULLAH, Sher-e-Kashmir, on behalf of the people of Kashmir (Over 90% Muslims).

DOCTOR M. A. KHAN, Vice-President of the Kistna District Muslim League, resigns from the League, issues a statement condemning Mr. Jinnah's "unpatriotic spirit" in wrecking the Simla Conference, declaring that "the Muslim League is only fostering religious fanaticism which is suicidal to the "Indian nation," praising the "patriotic and dignified" attitude of Maulana Azad, and finally announcing his intention to join—the Quislings!

Surprising as it may seem on a single page of a recent issue of PEOPLE'S WAR (giving the statements of various political workers condemning the U.P. ban on the P.W.) we find the statements of no less than three Quislings gratefully quoted by the pro-Pakistan Communist paper:

MAULVI TYEBULLAH, President, Assam Provincial Congress Committee.

SYED NAUSHER ALI, Speaker, Bengal Assembly, described as "a *veteran Nationalist Muslim leader.*"

Mr. MOHD. HANIF of Baleswar District, described as "an outstanding Muslim leader in the Congress."

The "one Quisling" doesn't seem to be doing so badly!

Nainya Of The Wild Heart

By KAMALA D. NAYAR

This does not sound like a human story at all. But then, was Nainya human?

She was a creature of flame and swiftness; none knew whence she came and whither she went when the shadows lengthened; and therein lay her mystery.

To the women in the market square to the labourers in the fields, to the little children who played in the streets by the gutters she was just Nainya—a creature as strange and wild as her name. Sometimes when the sun lit up the crests of waving wheat her tan lithe figure was seen gliding through the fields, scarlet poppies gleaming from her dusky hair. Or in the afternoons when the men weary with work rested in the shade of the pipals, she appeared in their midst as if by magic with ripe watermelons in her hands, tantalizing them by first eating the fruit herself, but always ending by sharing generously with them all.

Her sudden appearances used to make them wonder at first, but later when they realized that that was her way, they accepted her and her strange friendship without question. But the women were more curious. Faced with mystery, the more intriguing because she was a woman too, they sought by various ways that only women know, to trap her into an admission, to make her reveal her whereabouts and her home. But they little knew Nainya. A creature of moods, she was uncertain as April rain. If one minute she was gracious, friendly, smiling, the next would find her clouded, stormy, her dark eyes passionate in a flaming face, and people quailed before the string of abusive epithets that rolled off her tongue as smoothly as water off a lotus leaf.

There was an evening when one of them attempted to pin Nainya down to detail. They were seated under the almond trees by the lake chewing betel nut and leaf and bragging of their husbands and their homes. Beside them lay empty baskets for it was evening and their fruits were sold. The almond trees by the lake afforded them their favourite rendezvous and it was there that they saw her wading by the margin of the lake, dripping water hyacinths in her arms. They hailed her. She turned her head and looked a moment at them calmly aloof; then as if moved by some strange impulse she waded to the shore, her skirts clinging wet and close about her—a ragged, unkempt figure which possessed nevertheless a dignity and grace of bearing out of keeping with its shabby garb.

The sleeves of the short jacket she wore were torn and jagged. Once it had been red, but now stained and soiled, exposed to wind and rain and scorching sun it had become faded, nondescript. But there was nothing faded or nondescript about the young form it clothed so scantily. There was in her a vigour and grace which would have put to shame the beauty of a queen. Just then the vivid scarlet mouth was sulky; sulky too, the smouldering passionate eyes. Strange fires gleamed in them as they rested on the sunset reflected in the lake. She had been in a dream-world of her own, when they had called her; and the resentment had not yet died from her face at being rudely shaken out of it. She reached them without a word; in answer to their greeting she barely nodded. In silence she accepted the *pan*—they offered, leaning against the tree-trunk, her eyes glowing with strange lights. The women were afraid; and were annoyed that they were afraid.

Heera, the belle of them, all took up the unspoken challenge that seemed to flash from the girl's eyes as she faced them all. "Is Nainya unhappy that she has no home to which she can return? Or has one deserted her?" The others gathered courage. In a chorus of voices they taunted her, asked her whence she came and where she went by night. The eyes in Nainya's face went suddenly, deeply black. The heavy lids almost closed. "You scum of the earth!" she blazed. "What is it to you where I go or what I do?" and from her lips poured forth a torrent of words that left them cowering, dumb. She turned to Heera whose eyes were bright with anger. "And you—why should you know of my home, you whose home is free to all?" The eyes were mocking now, and Heera did not know whether the question was an insult or not. "Fools! Empty headed cuckling fools!" she cried, and turned swiftly to the water's edge. Before their dazed eyes could follow her lightning progress through the reeds and the grasses she was gone.....

And after that they left her alone. Almost against their will they grew to like her; her presence seemed to command an unwilling respect. In the market square her tall figure with its litheness and swinging grace was sometimes to be seen, now here, now there, but always restless, always on the move. Sometimes she amazed them all by her unexpected tenderness towards the children who played in the dusty streets; to the old beggars who tottered by leaning heavily on their sticks. And when old Lachchmi the mango seller was ill, Nainya took the loaded basket vending its contents till by evening she had collected a stream of silver which she emptied gaily into the old woman's lap. But when she turned to thank her she was gone.

There was one never-to-be-forgotten day when the square was stupefied into silence as Moti's child crawled across the street on all fours while a horse and carriage bore down upon him. There was no time to seize the child, but she could stop the horse. Before the horrified men and women knew what was happening Nainya had leaped to the advancing carriage and clung to the horse's harness while the startled driver almost broke the reins in his attempt to check the animal. Neighing in terror the creature plunged and reared, but the gipsy figure, wild hair streaming, held on, murmuring strange words until suddenly, strangely the horse stopped plunging and was silent, though quivering all over. And then before the driver had recovered from his astonishment, before her friends had time to notice that the capable brown hands were torn and bleeding, she mingled with the crowd and was lost to view..... To Moti who saw her again the week after, she was no longer strange or wild; Moti saw in her an angel of light and blessedness.....

The children loved her. None could tell stories that held them spellbound as Nainya could; none knew so well to fashion cunning shapes from orange peel, or how to weave entrancing patterns on the wall where the sunlight played between the leaves. Also it was Nainya who knew where the best watermelons were to be found; which tree in the neighbourhood had the best and ripest mangoes and where the loveliest wild flowers bloomed. In her they found a friend and champion in all their youthful escapades, for Nainya could fling a stone farther and with more deadly accuracy than any of them, as many an infuriated gardener had found to his cost. There was a time when mothers had looked askance at her. She was wild and strange—a stranger in their midst come out of some unknown and therefore suspicious land. She did not seem entirely human—nor yet entirely woman.

Sometimes when the golden moon hung bright between the trees, and the air was tense with the magic of her light, came a wild and passionate music that thrilled the creatures of the night and sent strange shivers down their spines. It would be heard now behind one tree, now by another; or perhaps from the boulders by the waterfall mingling with the rushing cascade of the stream. The breezes wafted the haunting strains through the night air to those that lived hard by, till they stirred in their sleep and dreamed strange disturbing dreams....

The scent of flowers drowned and heavy with perfume blended with the sound of the song and in the morning those who dreamt by night would wake with the scent of strange blooms in the air and a strange wild melody in their ears. For Nainya loved to dance by moonlight, by the edge where the woods met the fields or in and out between the trees, her dark hair streaming behind her, her tattered skirts whirling as her feet moved in some mysterious movement known only to their owner. Only none ever saw her thus by moonlight, alone and strangely beautiful, except the field mice which left their homes to watch her dance in the mystic, magic moonlight, except the tame rabbits who looked on unafraid, and the deer. And a long way over the moonlit land, elusive and faint, men heard her song and dreamt strange dreams.....

The town and the village were astir with excitement. Rumour fled from mouth to mouth and soon stark reality gave place to rumour. For months it had been in the air and now that it had come, now that it had made victims of the poor or nearly poor, they met together in groups sullen, revengeful. They eyed the wealthy with looks of dark and smouldering hatred as they passed by in their cars, or stepped daintily along the street swinging gracefully aside to avoid the dirt and the puddles or the contact of shabby, ragged garments. They looked at their children, starved, naked, hungry, filthy with dirt and vermin and compared them with the children of the rich who tripped rosy and beribboned by the side of their parents, or swaddled in numberless garments were wheeled in perambulators by arrogant servants.

Why, they asked themselves with bitter emphasis—why should they enjoy the best while we go hungry and our children starve? Why should they walk clad in comfort while we shiver and our children run naked in the streets? They asked, but found no answer. And daily their cry grew more strong, more insistent. "Give us food! Give us clothes to hide our nakedness! Give, or we shall take what is our own!" And while their cry gained in strength, the rich heeded not, neither did they care. Here and there a few isolated families generous and kind-hearted gave what they could spare, but not all their kindness or generosity could stem the rising tide of wrath which threatened to overwhelm them too, in its onward rush.

Nainya appeared amidst the angry crowd that formed in ever increasing power before the houses of the richest and most influential in the town. In that seething, swaying mass her tall form was seen, now encouraging the men, now urging them forward, now shouting invectives against the pride and inhuman cruelty of the rich. In normal times such accusations would have savoured of the melodramatic, but the times were not normal. It was a time when the mob's worst passions were roused, and in sweeping generalizations the innocent were condemned together with the guilty. Just now the crowd had collected before the house of Kishorelal a wealthy merchant and landowner. He had given much to alleviate the sufferings of his starving townsmen, but the mob had forgotten that in its blind anger. Just that morning one of the children had been run over by a car, and maddened with rage at this fresh instance of cruelty—deliberate as it pleased them to think—they remembered only that Kishorelal belonged to a class they hated and that his house with its lofty pillars and massive iron gateway was a standing witness of his sinful waste and consequent injustice to them.

They battered at the gates which held in spite of all their efforts to storm them. The gate-keepers had fled terrified; there was no one within sight, and the house itself was so well in that its pillars were but faintly seen between the trees. One of the mob shouted: "Someone must scale the wall, and open the gates from inside. Who will go?" From the surging mass a figure detached itself. "I will go" cried Nainya. "I will go and open the gates for you. Or better still, I shall go into the house and defy them all. You know me. What do you say?" And the mob shouted back in a frenzy: "Yes, Let Nainya go! She will bring them to their senses!" And all, took up the cry, till the air resounded with shouts of: "Nainya! Nainya- To the wall!".....

She stood perplexed in the hall. It had been an easy matter clambering over the wall, and vaulting lightly to the ground. Rendered more easy by the fact that the servants had run away and there was none to bar her way. She strode down the pathway fearlessly, her head held high, defiance in every line of her figure, while from without the mob shouted frantic in its applause. She reached the portico, she mounted the steps. In the wide verandah flanked by pillars she paused irresolute. The house was quite still. And yet there must be people inside. Where then, were they? She could not guess that the rooms of the house were more in number than the houses themselves where her friends lived, and that Kishorelal's family were going about their daily tasks unperturbed, serene, not because they had had not heard the mob, but because they refused to be alarmed.

She gazed awestruck at the carpets into which her bare feet sank, at the paintings on the walls which filled her with a nameless delight, at the room with its soft tones and richly blending colour-scheme, at the flowers which bloomed in tall vases that caught the sun's rays and broke them into fragments of coloured light. Her mind in a daze, she went softly from room to room, until she reached the staircase. She hesitated. It seems to her that she could hear sounds from above, laughter and soft voices. Also someone seemed to be tuning a musical instrument. She remembered that she had come to meet them and defy them and gaining courage from this thought she mounted the stairs. Two at a time she took them for they were broad and low. She crossed into the passage from the landing. A door opened. Before she knew what was happening she was doing, she flattened herself against the wall behind a marble statuette.

"Soni", called a young voice. "I've learnt that tune now—shall I play it again?" A girl went gaily down the corridor, in her hands a cithar. Nainya could not have explained why she had stepped back, shrunk from a meeting which she had courted. She looked at the slender figure of the girl as she swung the cithar and crossed over into another room. "Soni", she called, "Soni, where are you?" Through the half open doorway of the room Nainya had a glimpse of its luxury. She went in softly. It was so cool, so beautiful, so unlike anything she had ever seen before that she stopped breathless. She went up to the bed and touched its satin coverings. Her reflection stared at her from the tall mirror of the dressing table, and for a moment she was startled.

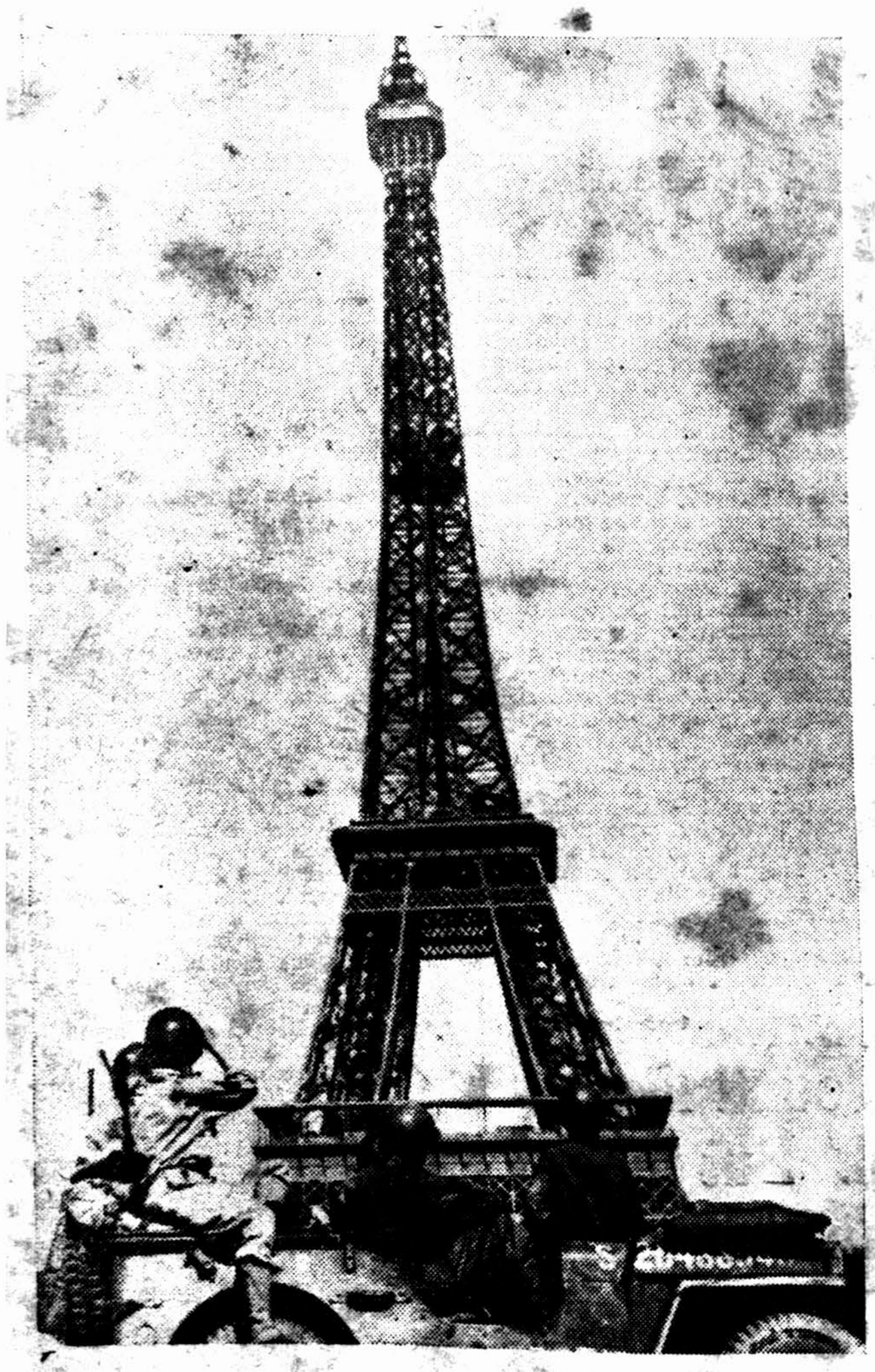
Then, with a sense of exquisite torture she went up to the mirror. She saw a proud, defiant face, dark hair flung carelessly back and glowing eyes which had a look just then of awe. She noticed for the first time her tanned and dusky face, her hands calloused and bruised, her broken nails. In the mirror she could see the silken blue of the bed—a contrast to her poverty and humiliation. She suddenly remembered the mob that was still without the gates waiting for her return. And she remembered too, the squalor in which they lived, while these.....! Turning in passionate rebellion she ran to the door. "Gita, where are you? I....." Nainya ran full tilt into the man who stood at the threshold, his sentence half-finished, consternation in his face.

She flung her head back defiantly, arrogantly prepared to hurl at him all the insults she had summoned to her mind. She looked up and met his eyes, they regarded her calmly, quietly, perhaps almost with a trace of pity. She felt suddenly conscious of her ragged apparel, of her tangled hair, of rough and hardened hands, of the tattered clothes that barely covered her. "It's you!" he said in relieved astonishment, and she started in sudden recognition. The scar high up near her left temple which ran into her hair glowed red as her face crimsoned in shame.

Her thoughts went back to a day when her father in a fit of drunken rage had flung a bottle at her head and left her lying abandoned, unconscious by the woods. The man who stood before her her stanched the wound, brought her water, revived her, but as soon as she recovered she had slipped into the shadows for that had always been her way. It would seem now that she had returned to pay her debt by reviling him, insulting his people, heaping curses on his family. She stood for a moment with downcast eyes, words trembling on her lips, unspoken. Then bending suddenly and swiftly she touched his feet. Without waiting for a word or sign, brushing past him through the doorway, Nainya of the wild heart fled.

Digitized with financial assistance from the Government of Maharashtra on 21 April, 2017

Registered No. B. 4666



FRANCE.—Five U.S. soldiers stop their jeep at the base of the Eiffel Tower in Paris to gaze up at the famous structure the day after the city was liberated by Allied soldiers in August, 1944. Long one of the most famous landmarks in the city, the 984-foot high tower has always attracted visitors and the Allied troops thronging into Paris after its liberation were no exception.

"THE SUN NEVER SETS ON YANKEE SOLDIERS"

Since wars began, no group of fighting men has been more widely dispersed over the earth's surface than the armed forces of the United States. Their guns have broken into the hushed stillness of the jungle, echoed across frozen tundra and around mountain bend; have spread into the vast openness of the desert.

But this complex global war into which the Allies were plunged has not only carried the U. S. soldier into the field of combat; in helping to prosecute it, he has seen places and peoples which were before known to him only through the pages of history and of geography.

He has stood in silent respect before the marble perfection of the Taj Mahal in India, has admired the magnificence of the Omayyade Mosque of Damascus. He has walked through Pompeii's hallowed ruins; knows the beauty of Anse Vata beach in New Caledonia. He has taken in the golden sweep of the Punjab's wheat fields and has wandered in quiet reverence through the halls of Cairo's Al Azhar, oldest university in the world. He has knelt before the altar of Notre Dame. He knows the colorful pageantry of the Burmese festival of Thadingyut.

Because direct contact must always mean more than knowledge gained of peoples and places through books, the U S. serviceman has acquired new learning of ways and customs in lands far from his home.

He is a living refutation of the theories of the isolationist. To him it is indeed one world—a world that need not be a global battlefield. In every corner of it he and his comrades have shed their blood.

The veteran knows perhaps better than any other American how great is the need for world security. At San Francisco, where the United Nations are seeeking a path to permanent peace, veterans are frequent and interested listeners. Many of them have worked with the people of the nations whose representatives address the sessions and work on conference committees.

In the occasional lull between battles, the soldiers has taken advantage of the opportunity offered him to take part in the life of the country in which he finds himself. His desire to make friends, his interest in his surroundings, have aided him in adjustment to conditions unusual to him—given him a fresh approach to the need for world peace.

GERMANY!—(Below left): Two U. S. soldiers in a Jeep pass a warning sign on the Belgian-German border, as they drive along a slippery, mud-covered road. To the millions of Allied soldiers fighting in Europe since the landings on the norther French Coast on June 6, 1944, this sign was one of the goals for which they strove as they pounded the retreating German armies through the fields and towns of France and Belgium. With the unconditional surrender of the Nazis May 7, half of the global war was over.

(Below right). CAIRO: Four U.S. soldiers in a jeep pass a heavily laden Egyptian donkey cart in Cairo, Egypt.

IRAN—Three U. S. soldiers on leave from their bases, go skiing in the mountains of northern Iran. The men are attached to the Persian Gulf Command, which before the end of the war in Europe transported U. S. made eqaipment and war material to Russian bases via an overland truck route from the northern end of the Persian Gulf.

LEYTE: Philippiñes President Sergio Osmena and U. S. General of the Army Douglas MacArthur stand on the steps of the Provincial Capitol Building on the island of Leyte, during the ceremony that marked its inauguration as temporary capitol of the Philippine Islands.

Printed and Published for the Bombay Chronicle Co., Ltd., by MICHAEL ANDRADES, at the "Bombay Chronicle" Press, Red Building, Parsi Bazaar Street, Fort, Bombay.